United Nations A/54/6 (Sect. 18)

General Assembly

Distr.: General
24 March 1999

Original: English

Fifty-fourth session

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001*

Part V
Regional cooperation for development

Section 18
Economic development in Europe

(Programme 16 of the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001)

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* The present document contains section 18 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001. The complete proposed programme budget will subsequently be issued in final printed form as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/54/6/Rev.1).

99-08284 (E) 140499

Section 18
Economic development in Europe

(Programme 16 of the medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001)

Overview

18.1 The programme is under the responsibility of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE).

18.2 The programme of work to be carried out by the Commission in the biennium 2000–2001 is in conformity with the overall objectives of the revised medium-term plan for the period 1998–2001 as revised (A/53/6/Rev.1), which comprises eight subprogrammes. The revised medium-term plan reflects the comprehensive reform process carried out by ECE in the past two years. It is recalled that some of the elements of the reform process had already been described in the programme of work of ECE for the biennium 1998–1999. This was the case in particular for the discontinuation of former subprogramme 8, Industry and technology (see document A/52/6/Rev.1, Vol. II, para. 18.15). The remaining elements of the reform shown in the programme of work for the biennium 2000–2001 described below concern, *inter alia*, the incorporation of the former subprogramme 4, Trade facilitation, in its entirety, in the revised subprogramme 6, Trade, industry and enterprise development.

18.3 As required by the Plan of Action adopted by ECE member countries in April 1997, all principal subsidiary bodies have prioritized their respective programme of activities, and the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work reviewed the programmes of work of the principal subsidiary bodies and recommended no adjustment in their orientation and no changes in the distribution of resources among subprogrammes. The Group met in the autumn of 1998. Its recommendations were endorsed by the Commission in December 1998 and are reflected in the proposals under this section.

18.4 The main objective of ECE is to develop principles, information systems and instruments that facilitate understanding and harmonious economic relations among all the countries of the region despite their diversity. The actions of ECE involve other intergovernmental bodies active in Europe as well as major non-governmental actors, particularly enterprises, local authorities and non-governmental organizations. ECE pays particular attention to those groups of countries which are less advanced in their transition to a market economy or whose economies have been affected by conflicts.

18.5 In the biennium 2000–2001, ECE will continue to produce statistics, information and analyses on all the countries of the region and on their increasing interdependence. This will provide new insights into major economic issues and will further constitute a basis for policy debates among member States, within the framework of the annual session of the Commission, to which the reform has given a new impetus.

18.6 The focus in terms of normative activities will be to promote the effective implementation of ECE conventions, norms and standards, in particular through support to countries with economies in transition. ECE will also continue to develop conventions, norms, standards and guidelines by involving interested economic parties.

18.7 Technical assistance activities that supplement and support the above core activities will continue to be carried out, mainly in the form of advisory services and workshops. This type of support will be provided through activities organized with subregional groupings and subregional initiatives, as this approach promotes the sharing of best practices and is cost-effective due to its multiplier effect for the beneficiary countries.

18.8 The dissemination of accurate information on all member countries is expected to provide to public and private policy makers an informed basis for their decisions, facilitate analysis of major global economic events and their impact on the ECE region and create a better understanding among countries of the region. It is further expected that more countries will ratify and better implement the agreed norms and conventions,

in particular through changes in their legislation. The adoption of new conventions, norms and standards is also expected to strengthen the links among the different countries of the region.

18.9 ECE will cooperate with other international organizations active in Europe, in particular regional institutions and subregional groupings. This cooperation will build upon complementarities in terms of membership, mandates and approaches to issues of common concern. It will also take into account the proven advantages of the organizations concerned so as to avoid duplication.

18.10 The Plan of Action adopted by ECE member countries in April 1997 identified gender mainstreaming as a cross-sectoral concern that is an integral part of the strategic directions of ECE, and all principal subsidiary bodies have been requested to bear this in mind in planning and carrying out their activities.

18.11 The regular budget resources proposed under this section would amount to $43,590,100, representing resource growth of $40,500 from the previous biennium. The changes in the distribution of resources reflected in table 18.1 below can be summarized as follows:

(a) The decrease under executive direction and management in the amount of $208,100 is the net result of the outward redeployment of the staff and other resources of the Coordinating Unit for Operational Activities to programme support, partially offset by the inward redeployment of one P-2 post from programme support to strengthen the Office of the Executive Secretary in carrying out its oversight and leadership functions; the establishment of one new P-4 post for planning and carrying out all information activities for ECE and its subsidiaries bodies; the reclassification of one P-3 post to the P-4 level for programme monitoring and evaluation, inter-agency coordination, follow-up to global conferences and gender mainstreaming; and increases of $12,300 under contractual services for external translation, printing and binding of publications and information brochures;

(b) The decrease under programme of work of $265,600 is the net result of decreases of $397,800 under grants and contributions for computer-processing, telecommunications, data-storage and other specialized services provided to ECE and $23,900 under travel, partially offset by increases of $81,000 under posts as a result of the proposed reclassification of two P-3 posts to the P-4 level; $15,000 under consultants and experts reflecting the requirements needed to prepare a number of specialized publications; $40,100 under contractual services for the external production of some of the leading ECE publications, such as *Economic Survey of Europe*; and $20,000 under supplies and materials mostly owing to increased costs for electronic information services and subscriptions;

(c) An increase of $514,200 under programme support, which represents the net result of increases reflecting the inward redeployment of resources under the Coordinating Unit for Operational Activities (one D-1, one P-3 and one General Service (Other level) post) from executive direction and management and the reclassification of the P-4 post of the Chief of the Administrative and Conference Services Unit to the P-5 level, partially offset by decreases related to the outward redeployment of one P-2 post to executive direction and management and reduced requirements under contractual services and general operating expenses.

18.12 It is estimated that during the biennium, extrabudgetary resources amounting to $9,828,500 will be utilized to supplement resources from the regular budget, primarily to finance the organization of workshops, seminars and symposia for the countries in the region, particularly in countries with economies in transition; to support the implementation of the conventions on the environment adopted within the framework of ECE; to support cooperative agreements signed by various ECE member States on transport; and to share best practices and stimulate contacts in the sectors of energy efficiency, timber, trade and the like.

Table 18.1 **Summary of requirements by component**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Component	1996-1997 expenditures	1998-1999 appropriations	Resource growth: Amount	Resource growth: Percentage	Total before recosting	Recosting	2000-2001 estimates
Executive direction and management	2 636.3	3 375.7	(208.1)	(6.1)	3 167.6	58.1	3 225.7
Programme of work	37 002.5	36 308.6	(265.6)	(0.7)	36 043.0	581.0	36 624.0
Programme support: administration and common services	4 112.4	3 865.3	514.2	13.3	4 379.5	61.4	4 440.9
Total	**43 751.2**	**43 549.6**	**40.5**	**–**	**43 590.1**	**700.5**	**44 290.6**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1996-1997 expenditures	1998-1999 estimates	Source of funds	2000-2001 estimates
		(a) Services in support of:	
–	–	(i) United Nations organizations	–
114.6	484.8	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	493.6
		(b) Substantive activities:	
87.3	165.0	Trust Fund for Human Settlements	168.4
2 927.0	4 379.5	Trust Fund for the Financing of the Implementation of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution	4 422.8
350.4	406.8	Trust Fund for the Energy Efficiency 2000 project	389.9
12.3	22.6	Trust Fund for the ECE Study on Long-term Timber Trends and Prospects	56.5
5.6	42.4	Trust Fund for Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport	75.7
647.1	849.1	Trust Fund for Assistance to Countries in Transition	700.6
6.7	–	Trust Fund for the ECE Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Fourth World Conference on Women	–
228.3	442.1	Trust Fund for Environmental Performance Reviews and Environment for Europe	576.3
		(c) Operational projects:	
1 198.7	1 604.0	UNFPA	–
1 246.2	1 038.3	UNDP	494.3
2 647.8	3 278.0	Technical cooperation trust funds	2 450.4
9 472.0	**12 712.6**	**Total**	**9 828.5**
53 223.2	**56 262.2**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**54 119.1**

Table 18.2 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1996-1997 expenditures*	*1998-1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000-2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	41 972.5	40 020.9	394.1	0.9	40 415.0	624.0	41 039.0
Other staff costs	146.7	184.5	–	–	184.5	3.4	187.9
Consultants and experts	262.7	376.2	15.0	3.9	391.2	6.9	398.1
Travel	548.4	622.1	–	–	622.1	30.5	652.6
Contractual services	162.3	373.7	36.7	9.8	410.4	7.4	417.8
General operating expenses	93.8	158.5	(27.5)	(17.3)	131.0	2.3	133.3
Hospitality	15.6	15.6	–	–	15.6	0.2	15.8
Supplies and materials	84.2	115.3	20.0	17.3	135.3	2.6	137.9
Furniture and equipment	465.0	485.4	–	–	485.4	8.7	494.1
Grants and contributions	–	1 197.4	(397.8)	(33.2)	799.6	14.5	814.1
Total	**43 751.2**	**43 549.6**	**40.5**	**–**	**43 590.1**	**700.5**	**44 290.6**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1996-1997 expenditures	*1998-1999 estimates*	*Object of expenditure*	*2000-2001 estimates*
2 508.4	1 443.1	Posts	1 110.8
591.2	1 805.1	Other staff costs	787.4
390.1	842.5	Consultants and experts	763.7
626.8	947.2	Travel	679.0
399.2	507.1	Contractual services	233.0
87.7	213.1	General operating expenses	199.3
0.1	–	Supplies and materials	33.0
88.4	198.5	Furniture and equipment	112.7
4 133.8	5 900.5	Grants and contributions	5 245.0
646.3	855.5	Other	664.6
9 472.0	**12 712.6**		**9 828.5**
53 223.2	**56 262.2**		**54 119.1**

Table 18.3 **Post requirements**

Programme: Economic development in Europe

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1998 1999	*2000 2001*	*1998 1999*	*2000 2001*	*1998 1999*	*2000 2001*	*1998 1999*	*2000 2001*
Professional category and above								
USG	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
D-2	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
D-1	9	9	–	–	–	–	9	9
P-5	21	22	–	–	1	2	22	24
P-4/3	64	64	–	–	6	1	70	65
P-2/1	18	18	–	–	–	–	18	18
Total	**114**	**115**	**–**	**–**	**7**	**3**	**121**	**118**
General Service category								
Principal level	6	6	–	–	–	–	6	6
Other level	75	75	–	–	2	2	77	77
Total	**81**	**81**	**–**	**–**	**2**	**2**	**83**	**83**
Grand total	**195**	**196**	**–**	**–**	**9**	**5**	**204**	**201**

18.13 The estimated percentage distribution of the total resources of ECE in the biennium 2000–2001 would be as follows:

	Regular budget	*Extrabudgetary*
	(Percentage)	
Executive direction and management	7.2	–
Programme of work	82.8	87.9
Programme support	10.0	12.1
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**

18.14 Resources for administration and conference and general services for ECE are, unlike for other regional commissions, not included under its own programme budget. They are included in a consolidated fashion under section 27E, Administration, Geneva, in respect of administration and general services, and under section 2, General Assembly affairs and conference services, in respect of conference-servicing costs. They are thus administered by the United Nations Office at Geneva in an integrated fashion.

18.15 In order to permit a comparison among regional commissions while at the same time maintaining the advantages of integrated management and avoiding duplication of effort, the estimated resources (at current rates) to be provided by the United Nations Office at Geneva to ECE for administrative, conference and general services during the biennium 2000–2001 are summarized below:

	United States dollars
Administration and general services	9 166 100
Conference and library services	22 524 500
Total	**31 690 600**

A. Policy-making organs

18.16 The Commission, which reports to the Economic and Social Council, provides overall direction to the work of the secretariat. It meets annually for three or four working days, supplemented by ad hoc informal sessions of one day every three months, as necessary, and in keeping with past practice. It has seven principal subsidiary bodies: the Committee on Environmental Policy (subprogramme 1, Environment) meets three days annually; the Inland Transport Committee (subprogramme 2, Transport) meets three days annually; the Conference of European Statisticians (subprogramme 3, Statistics) meets two and a half days annually; the Committee on Sustainable Energy (subprogramme 5, Sustainable energy) meets three days annually; the Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development (subprogramme 6, Trade, industry and enterprise development) meets three days annually; the Timber Committee (subprogramme 7, Timber) meets two and a half days annually; and the Committee on Human Settlements (subprogramme 8, Human settlements) meets two and a half days annually.

18.17 The Commission also established a Group of Experts on the Programme of Work open to all member States. The Group meets at least every two years in the autumn prior to the preparation of the programme budget submission to provide recommendations to the Commission on adjustments and shifts in the ECE programme of work. The recommendations of the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work, endorsed by the Commission, have been taken into account in the preparation of the programme budget proposals under this section. Furthermore, the programme narratives were provided to member States in advance, and their comments have also been taken into consideration in the preparation of these proposals.

B. Executive direction and management

Table 18.4 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1996-1997 expenditures*	*1998-1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000-2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	2 354.1	3 043.8	(220.4)	(7.2)	2 823.4	46.8	2 870.2
Consultants and experts	61.3	84.9	–	–	84.9	1.5	86.4
Travel	179.8	170.8	–	–	170.8	8.4	179.2
Contractual services	25.5	60.6	12.3	20.2	72.9	1.2	74.1
Hospitality	15.6	15.6	–	–	15.6	0.2	15.8
Total	**2 636.3**	**3 375.7**	**(208.1)**	**(6.1)**	**3 167.6**	**58.1**	**3 225.7**

Table 18.5 **Post requirements**

Programme: Executive direction and management

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1998 1999	*2000 2001*	*1998 1999*	*2000 2001*	*1998 1999*	*2000 2001*	*1998 1999*	*2000 2001*
Professional category and above								
USG	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
D-2	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
D-1	3	2	–	–	–	–	3	2
P-4/3	2	2	–	–	–	–	2	2
P-2/1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Total	**7**	**7**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**7**	**7**
General Service category								
Principal level	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
Other level	5	4	–	–	–	–	5	4
Total	**6**	**5**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**6**	**5**
Grand total	**13**	**12**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**13**	**12**

18.18 The Office of the Executive Secretary provides overall executive direction, management and policy guidance and leadership for the implementation of all subprogrammes of the ECE programme of work. The functions of the Office include issuance of policy guidelines and directives for the substantive secretariat to implement the programme of work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies; coordination of ECE programme oversight; formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Commission's programme of work in accordance with the objectives of the medium-term plan and the programme budget; implementation of the resolutions and decisions of the Commission, as well as those of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, that have a bearing on the work of ECE; implementation of the directives of the Secretary-General; management of a forward-looking strategy for ECE programme planning and activities to respond to emerging and foreseeable needs and priorities of member States of the region; facilitation of inter-agency dialogue on regional needs and opportunities for operative action in the economic and related fields; dissemination of information about the work and activities of ECE and external relations with member Governments, international organizations and institutions, the business community, professional academic institutions, local authorities and non-governmental organizations; ongoing review of the ECE programme of work and the structure and methods of work to ensure greater efficiency, economy and optimal use of resources; cooperation and coordination of work with other international organizations and institutions active in the economic field in the region, including subregional forms of cooperation; provision of support to the Commission and its Bureau and subsidiary bodies, including through submission of reports to the Commission (as decided upon annually by the Commission or its Bureau) and review of documentation prepared for the subsidiary bodies; and provision of an interface between the Bureau of the Commission and the bureaux of the principal subsidiary bodies.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

18.19 The estimated requirements of $2,823,400, reflecting a decrease of $220,400, would provide for the posts shown in table 18.5. It is proposed to redeploy the staff and other resources related to the Coordinating Unit for Operational Activities (one D-1, one P-3 and one General Service, Other level, posts) to programme

support and one P-2 post from programme support to assist the Office of the Executive Secretary in drafting reports and briefing notes, servicing the Commission and ad hoc meetings and following up ad hoc issues. It is also proposed to establish one new P-4 post to be responsible for the planning and execution of all information activities for ECE and its subsidiary bodies in order to increase public awareness of the work of ECE on a regional and global basis as well as to enable ECE to improve the dissemination and understanding of its instruments of economic integration (conventions, norms, guidelines and economic analysis) so that they can be better known and used by member countries. Further, the requirements include the proposed reclassification of one P-3 post to the P-4 level because of increased responsibilities in relation to the management and coordination of the work programme, including programme monitoring and evaluation, inter-agency coordination, follow-up to global conferences and gender mainstreaming.

Consultants and experts

18.20 The estimated requirements of $84,900 include a provision of $18,800 required to cover specialized consultancy services in a number of areas not falling within individual subprogrammes and on subjects where no specialized expertise is available in the secretariat and a provision of $66,100 for the annual seminar held prior to the session of the Commission with economists from Governments and the academic and business sectors as well as participants from other international organizations. This seminar, together with a discussion on economic issues during the Commission session, replaced the senior economic advisers and forms part of the reform process.

Travel

18.21 The estimated requirements of $170,800 will provide for the travel expenditures of the Executive Secretary and his staff, including his deputy, for consultation with Governments, participation at intergovernmental meetings, maintaining contacts with other international, multilateral and subregional organizations, consultations with Headquarters and coordination with other United Nations entities.

Contractual services

18.22 The estimated requirements of $72,900, reflecting an increase of $12,300, relate to external production, including translation, printing and binding of specialized publications requested by the ECE organs, as well as printing and design of covers and informational brochures for which internal translation and reproduction services are not always available.

Hospitality

18.23 The estimated requirements of $15,600 for the Commission as a whole relate to group hospitality on the occasion of major meetings and to hospitality extended towards representatives of member States and international organizations.

C. Programme of work

Table 18.6 **Summary of requirements by programme**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Subprogrammes	*1996-1997 expenditures*	*1998-1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000-2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
1. Environment	6 034.4	6 423.4	103.1	1.6	6 526.5	115.1	6 641.6
2. Transport	5 753.6	6 757.4	31.2	0.4	6 788.6	103.3	6 891.9
3. Statistics	6 159.6	7 744.0	(90.8)	(1.1)	7 653.2	105.8	7 759.0
4. Economic analysis	6 102.6	5 441.2	(259.2)	(4.7)	5 182.0	89.8	5 271.8
5. Sustainable energy	3 338.2	2 021.3	62.2	3.0	2 083.5	37.3	2 120.8
6. Trade, industry and enterprise development	1 603.1	3 210.9	2 708.0	84.3	5 918.9	101.7	6 020.6
7. Timber	1 589.1	1 325.8	2.2	0.1	1 328.0	17.9	1 345.9
8. Human settlements	676.1	642.3	(80.0)	(12.4)	562.3	10.1	572.4
Former subprogramme 4, Trade facilitation	2 060.6	2 742.3	(2 742.3)	(100.0)	–	–	–
Former subprogramme 8, Industry and technology	3 685.2	–	–	–	–	–	–
Subtotal	**37 002.5**	**36 308.6**	**(265.6)**	**(0.7)**	**36 043.0**	**581.0**	**36 624.0**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1996-1997 expenditures	*1998-1999 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*2000-2001 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
–	–	(i) United Nations organizations	–
–	–	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	–
		(b) Substantive activities	
87.3	165.0	Trust Fund for Human Settlements	168.4
2 927.0	4 379.5	Trust Fund for the Financing of the Implementation of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution	4 422.8
350.4	406.8	Trust Fund for the Energy Efficiency 2000 project	389.9
12.3	22.6	Trust Fund for the ECE Study on Long-term Timber Trends and Prospects	56.5
5.6	42.4	Trust Fund for Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport	75.7
6.7	–	Trust Fund for the ECE Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Fourth World Conference on Women	–
–	–	Trust Fund for Support to ECE Regional Conferences and Meetings, including Preparatory Meetings for Global Conferences	–
228.3	442.1	Trust Fund for Environmental Performance Reviews and Environment for Europe	576.3
		(c) Operational projects	
1 198.7	1 604.0	UNFPA	–
1 246.2	1 038.3	UNDP	494.3
2 647.8	3 278.0	Technical cooperation trust funds	2 450.4
8 710.3	**11 378.7**	**Total**	**8 634.3**
45 712.8	**47 687.3**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**45 258.3**

Table 18.7 **Post requirements**

Programme of work

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1998-1999	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*
Professional category and above								
D-1	6	6	–	–	–	–	6	6
P-5	21	21	–	–	1	2	22	23
P-4/3	58	58	–	–	6	1	64	59
P-2/1	15	15	–	–	–	–	15	15
Total	**100**	**100**	**–**	**–**	**7**	**3**	**107**	**103**
General Service category								
Principal level	4	4	–	–	–	–	4	4
Other level	63	63	–	–	–	–	63	63
Total	**67**	**67**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**67**	**67**
Grand total	**167**	**167**	**–**	**–**	**7**	**3**	**174**	**170**

18.24 Within the programme of work, the estimated percentage distribution of resources among subprogrammes would be as follows:

Subprogramme	*Regular budget*	*Extrabudgetary*
	(Percentage)	
Environment	18.1	57.9
Transport	18.8	11.4
Statistics	21.2	5.8
Economic analysis	14.4	–
Sustainable energy	5.8	14.6
Trade, industry and enterprise development	16.4	7.5
Timber	3.7	0.9
Human settlements	1.6	1.9
Total	**100.0**	**100.0**

Subprogramme 1
Environment

Table 18.8 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1996-1997 expenditures*	*1998-1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000-2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	5 946.4	6 228.5	119.6	1.9	6 348.1	109.7	6 457.8
Consultants and experts	24.4	35.9	–	–	35.9	0.6	36.5
Travel	63.6	93.1	(18.5)	(19.8)	74.6	3.6	78.2
Contractual services	–	8.4	(8.4)	(100.0)	–	–	–
Grants and contributions	–	57.5	10.4	18.0	67.9	1.2	69.1
Total	**6 034.4**	**6 423.4**	**103.1**	**1.6**	**6 526.5**	**115.1**	**6 641.6**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1996-1997 expenditures	*1998-1999 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*2000-2001 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
–	–	(i) United Nations organizations	–
–	–	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	–
		(b) Substantive activities	
2 927.0	4 379.5	Trust Fund for the Financing of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution	4 422.8
228.3	442.1	Trust Fund for Environmental Performance Reviews and Environment for Europe	576.3
–	–	(c) Operational projects	–
3 155.3	**4 821.6**		**4 999.1**
9 189.7	**11 245.0**		**11 640.7**

Table 18.9 **Post requirements**

Subprogramme: Environment

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1998 1999	*2000 2001*	*1998 1999*	*2000 2001*	*1998 1999*	*2000 2001*	*1998 1999*	*2000 2001*
Professional category and above								
D-1	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
P-5	4	4	–	–	–	–	4	4
P-4/3	13	14	–	–	–	–	13	14
P-2/1	2	1	–	–	–	–	2	1
Total	**20**	**20**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**20**	**20**
General Service category								
Other level	10	10	–	–	–	–	10	10
Total	**10**	**10**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**10**	**10**
Grand total	**30**	**30**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**30**	**30**

18.25 The work under the subprogramme will be carried out by the Environment and Human Settlements Division.

18.26 The main objectives of the subprogramme are: (a) to promote regional sustainable development in line with Agenda 21; (b) to contribute to the development of national environmental legislation in the countries of the region through the application of the ECE environmental conventions and their protocols; and (c) to strengthen the capacity of the countries with economies in transition to carry out effective assessment of their environmental problems and improve their environmental management.

18.27 In order to achieve these objectives, the activities of the subprogramme will consist of preparation of documentation and organization of meetings, seminars, workshops, consultations and advisory missions related to: (a) implementation of the Environmental Programme for Europe as follow-up to the Ministerial Conference on Environment for Europe (Århus, Denmark, June 1998), and preparation of the 2002 Ministerial Conference to be held in Kiev; (b) implementation of the ECE environmental conventions and their protocols, as well as drafting new regional legally binding instruments; (c) preparation of new environmental performance reviews of countries with economies in transition and implementation of the recommendations made to those countries; (d) implementation of regional projects concerning cross-sectoral cooperation, such as transport and the environment, health and the environment, agriculture and the environment, forest and the environment and energy and the environment.

Expected accomplishments

18.28 By the end of the biennium, the expected accomplishments will include: (a) increased and improved application of ECE environmental conventions and their protocols in national legislation and a more harmonized legal environmental regime throughout the ECE region; (b) greater public awareness of environmental issues and increased public participation in the decision-making process; (c) improved environmental management at the pan-European level and accelerated sustainable development in the ECE region, including the integration of environmental considerations into other sectors of the economy, especially in countries with economies in transition; and (d) strengthened cross-sectoral international cooperation and coordination in the ECE region.

Outputs

18.29 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies (RB/XB)*

(i) Committee on Environmental Policy

a. Substantive servicing of the meetings of the Committee (12); meetings of the Ad Hoc Preparatory Working Group of Senior Officials on Environment for Europe (24); and the environmental performance review meetings (8);

b. Parliamentary documentation. Two reports on the annual sessions of the Committee; four reports of the Working Group of Senior Officials; one report on the convention on access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters; two reports on economics of environment and health; seven reports for the 2002 Ministerial Conference on Environment for Europe (2001); one report each for the Workshop on Economic Instruments for Integration of Environmental and Energy Policies and the Workshop on Sustainable Consumption Patterns; and one report on the European energy conservation initiative;

(ii) Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution

a. Substantive servicing of the meetings of the Executive Body (18); the Working Group on Strategies (36); the Steering Body of the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (12); the Working Group on Effects (12); and the Working Group on Abatement Techniques (8);

b. Parliamentary documentation. Two reports of the Executive Body; 10 reports of other subsidiary bodies under the Convention; 2 reports each on integrated assessment modelling, economic aspects of abatement strategies, emission data, modelling of air pollutants, forest damage, and health effects; and 1 report each on the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution-20 years of activities, the multi-pollutant/multi-effects protocol, major review strategies and policies and guidance on abatement techniques for nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds and ammonia;

(iii) Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes

a. Substantive servicing of the Meetings of the Parties to the Convention (7); the Working Group on Water Management (14); the European Environment and Health Committee (8); the signatories to the Protocol on Water and Health (14); the Working Group on Water and Health (18); and the intergovernmental meetings on managing transboundary waters in Europe (7);

b. Parliamentary documentation. Report of the Meeting of the Parties; two reports of the Working Group on Water Management; eight reports of other subsidiary bodies under the Convention; and one report each on policy guidelines on monitoring and assessing transboundary ground waters (second edition), good practices for flood prevention and protection, policy guidelines on monitoring and assessing transboundary rivers (third edition), good legislative practices for cooperation on transboundary waters (compliance regimes and enforcement procedures), policy guidelines on integrated management of fresh water, coastal zones and coastal waters, good practices to prevent, control and reduce water-related diseases, including the results of pilot projects in approximately five ECE countries, good practices for public participation in the management of transboundary waters, good practices for managing transboundary waters by joint bodies, information

system on transboundary waters and wetlands in Central Europe and guidance on the best available technology in water management;

(iv) Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context

a. Substantive servicing of the Meetings of the Parties to the Convention (20) and of the Working Group on the Convention (12);

b. Parliamentary documentation. Two reports of the Meeting of the Parties and one report each on recommendations (soft-law) to evaluate the implementation of the Convention, non-compliance guidelines for the Convention, bilateral cooperation, policies and strategies, environmental impact assessment database and public participation in environmental impact assessment;

(v) Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents

a. Substantive servicing of the meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention (14);

b. Parliamentary documentation. Two reports of the meetings of the Conference of the Parties; and one report each on guidelines for the facilitation of the exchange of safety technology, the United Nations/ECE Accident Notification System and guidelines for identification of hazardous installations;

(vi) Meeting of the Signatories to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters

a. Substantive servicing of the meetings of the signatories to the Convention (20);

b. Parliamentary documentation. Two reports of the meetings of the signatories and one report each on recommendations on the Convention and recommendations on a non-compliance mechanism for the Convention;

(vii) Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment for Europe (Kiev). Pre-conference documentation. Report on follow-up to the Fourth Ministerial Conference; report on enhancing capacity-building in countries with economies in transition; and three reports on cross-sectoral cooperation;

(viii) Other services. Twenty meetings of task forces/expert groups established under the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes; 4 meetings of the Task Force on Economics of Environment and Health; 2 expert group meetings each on sustainable consumption patterns, economic instruments for environmental policy and energy conservation; 2 meetings of the Task Force on Integrating Environmental Considerations into Sectoral Policies; and 26 meetings of the task forces/expert groups under the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution;

(b) *Other substantive activities (RB/XB)*

(i) Approximately 24 workshops, to be organized or serviced under the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, on such issues as cooperative programmes on monitoring the effects of air pollution on forests, fresh water, crops, materials and ecosystems; effects on health; mapping of critical loads and levels; emission inventories; monitoring and modelling of atmospheric transport of air pollutants; abatement techniques and their costs for sulphur, nitrogen oxides, ammonia, volatile organic compounds, persistent organic pollutants, heavy metals and particulate matter; integrated assessment modelling; economic aspects of abatement strategies; compliance monitoring; management of by-products containing heavy metals and persistent organic pollutants; damage-avoidance benefits; implementation of the ECE

environmental conventions; economic instruments for integration of environmental and energy policies; sustainable consumption patterns; managing transboundary waters (8); preparedness and response to industrial accidents (2); prevention of industrial accidents (2); mechanism to support compliance with the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters; governmental consultations to promote the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (10); consultations on environmental auditing and risk assessment; rules of procedure for the public participation convention; points of contact under the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents (2); and the code of good agricultural practices regarding ammonia (2);

(ii) Recurrent publications. Environment Series; Air Pollution Studies (2); and Water Series (2);

(iii) Non-recurrent publications. Protocol on nitrogen oxides and related substances; guidance on abatement techniques for nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds and ammonia; the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution-20 years of activities; environment and energy subsidies; case study on the economics of environmental health; proceedings of the Workshop on Sustainable Consumption Patterns; environmental performance reviews (4); a critical review of implementation of obligations under the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution; guidelines on economic instruments for environmental policies; guidelines on sustainable consumption patterns; European energy conservation; economics of environment and health; decisions of the Second Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context; decisions of the First Meeting of the Parties to the public participation convention; the ECE accident notification system; identification of hazardous activities; special edition of the Water Series (2); proceedings of the Workshop on Economic Instruments for Integration of Environmental and Energy Policies; the multi-pollutant/multi-effects protocol; and the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution/ECE framework code on good agricultural practices;

(iv) Booklets and fact sheets. One fact sheet each on water management and on water and health;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison (RB/XB)*

(i) Participation in activities of intergovernmental bodies outside the United Nations, including the European Environment Agency (EEA), in the framework of the memorandum of understanding between ECE and EEA; the follow-up to the 1998 Conference on Environment for Europe by the Task Force on the Environment Action Programme for Central and Eastern Europe; the follow-up to the Conference by the Council of Europe and UNEP; and the follow-up to the energy conservation initiative by the European Energy Charter secretariat;

(ii) Cooperation and coordination with the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (Helsinki Commission) and the Oslo-Paris Commission for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic on emission inventories, monitoring and modelling; the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme on emission inventories and monitoring; the European Experiment on the Transport and Transformation of Environmentally Relevant Trace Constituents in the Troposphere over Europe on air pollution monitoring and modelling; and the European Commission on integrated prevention and pollution control;

(iii) Cooperation and coordination with the WHO/Regional Office for Europe and the European Commission on water and health); WHO, UNESCO and the World Bank on groundwater management; UNEP and UNDP on management of transboundary waters; UNEP, the European Commission, EEA and the Council of Europe on management of coastal areas; WHO on follow-up to the 1999 Conference on Environment and Health and on air pollution monitoring and modelling; UNEP, WHO and the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety on global action

on persistent organic pollutants; and WHO and the European Centre for Environment and Health on development of air quality guidelines;

(iv) Participation in two activities of the Meteorological Synthesizing Centre-West/International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis in the area of integrated assessment modelling;

(d) *Technical cooperation (RB/XB)*

(i) Advisory services to countries with economies in transition on the implementation of the environmental impact assessment convention (4); industrial safety activities under the industrial accident convention (4); preparation of environmental performance reviews (8); mobile sources of air pollution under the air pollution convention (2); techno-economic databases on production processes and related emission abatement options (2); improving technological capacity to control emissions (2); improving public participation capabilities (2); and improving environmental impact assessment capabilities;

(ii) Group training. Four training courses on transboundary water management in countries with economies in transition and two training courses for students;

(iii) Field projects. Twelve pilot and demonstration projects on improving water management capabilities in countries with economies in transition; and five projects on water and health in five countries with economies in transition.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

18.30 The estimated requirements of $6,348,100, including resource growth of $119,600, would provide for the posts shown in table 18.9. The increase of $119,600 represents the net result of the reclassification of one P-3 post to the P-4 level and the inward redeployment of one P-4 post from subprogramme 8, Human settlements, in exchange for the outward redeployment of one P-2 post. The proposed reclassification of one P-3 post to the P-4 level is due to the increased responsibilities assumed by the post in relation to the coordination of all effect-oriented activities under the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (comprising one standing working group and seven task forces), including monitoring and follow-up of protocols on air pollution abatement and associated fund-raising. The inward redeployment to this subprogramme of one P-4 post from subprogramme 8, Human settlements, in exchange for the outward redeployment to that subprogramme of one P-2 post is proposed in order to reflect more appropriately the responsibilities assumed by the redeployed P-4 post.

Consultants and experts

18.31 A provision of $35,900, at maintenance level, would be required to cover specialized services to assist in the preparation of parliamentary documentation and the promotion of the implementation of environmental conventions and projects of the Environment for Europe programme.

Travel

18.32 The estimated requirements under this heading, $74,600, reflecting a decrease of $18,500, would provide for the servicing of workshops and seminars on the implementation of environmental activities in the ECE region and consultation and participation in meetings and international conferences and symposiums organized by Governments and international organizations on issues related to the programme of work.

Contractual services

18.33 No resources are required under this heading owing to increased capacity for internal reproduction of printed outputs.

Grants and contributions

18.34 A provision of $67,900, including resource growth of $10,400, is proposed as the proportionate share of this subprogramme in respect of the total computer -processing, telecommunications, data-storage and other specialized information technology services provided to ECE.

Subprogramme 2
Transport

Table 18.10 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1996-1997 expenditures*	*1998-1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000-2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	5 551.4	6 467.5	–	–	6 467.5	95.5	6 563.0
Consultants and experts	37.6	60.3	–	–	60.3	1.0	61.3
Travel	62.2	64.6	–	–	64.6	3.2	67.8
Contractual services	102.4	102.3	21.4	20.9	123.7	2.3	126.0
Grants and contributions	–	62.7	9.8	15.6	72.5	1.3	73.8
Total	**5 753.6**	**6 757.4**	**31.2**	**0.4**	**6 788.6**	**103.3**	**6 891.9**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1996-1997 expenditures	*1998-1999 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*2000-2001 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
–	–	(i) United Nations organizations	–
–	–	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	–
–	–	(b) Substantive activities	–
		(c) Operational projects	
405.8	1 122.2	Technical cooperation trust funds	987.5
Total	**405.8**	**1 122.2**	**987.5**
Total (1) and (2)	**6 159.4**	**7 879.6**	**7 879.4**

Table 18.11 **Post requirements**

Subprogramme: Transport

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1998 1999	*2000 2001*	*1998 1999*	*2000 2001*	*1998 1999*	*2000 2001*	*1998 1999*	*2000 2001*
Professional category and above								
D-1	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
P-5	4	4	–	–	–	–	4	4
P-4/3	10	10	–	–	–	–	10	10
P-2/1	3	3	–	–	–	–	3	3
Total	**18**	**18**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**18**	**18**
General Service category								
Principal level	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
Other level	13	13	–	–	–	–	13	13
Total	**14**	**14**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**14**	**14**
Grand total	**32**	**32**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**32**	**32**

18.35 The work under the subprogramme will be carried out by the Transport Division.

18.36 The main objectives of the subprogramme are: (a) to promote an efficient, integrated, safe and sustainable transport system in the ECE region and beyond through the development, promotion and implementation of international agreements, conventions and other legally binding instruments as well as recommendations; and (b) to assist countries in transition in developing their transport systems and infrastructures in line with those legal instruments.

18.37 In order to achieve these objectives, the main activities of the subprogramme will be the organization of meetings, seminars and workshops, the preparation of documentation and publications and the implementation of all other mandates of the ECE Inland Transport Committee, its subsidiary bodies and joint meetings on transport and the environment, as well as the Economic and Social Council Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and its subcommittee, related to: (a) the updating and development of the set of international legal instruments and recommendations elaborated under the auspices of those bodies and aimed at the development of coherent pan-European infrastructure networks, the harmonization and improvement of transport safety and environmental regulations and the facilitation of border crossings; (b) the promotion of accession to and implementation of those legal instruments by ECE member States; (c) the development, in cooperation with other international institutions and organizations, of the pan-European transport corridors and areas identified at the Third Pan-European Transport Conference (Helsinki, June 1997); (d) the collection and dissemination of ECE transport data and information and the production of analytical reports on the transport situation in the ECE region; and (e) the implementation of subregional cooperation projects and assistance to member countries in transition with a view to the coordinated development of their transport systems and infrastructures.

Expected accomplishments

18.38 The main expected accomplishments from the above activities will include: (a) an increased and updated set of international legal instruments in the field of transport; (b) an increased number of contracting parties to those legal instruments; (c) improved traffic safety in the ECE region; (d) improved international vehicle regulations ensuring a higher level of safety and environmental performance of those vehicles; (e) easier

border crossing, particularly for transport of goods; and (f) improved transport systems and infrastructures, in particular in countries in transition. The end-users of the work of this subprogramme are Governments, the transport and transport equipment industry and all transport users.

Outputs

18.39 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) Economic and Social Council

a. Substantive servicing of the meetings of the Economic and Social Council Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (20) and its subcommittee (60);

b. Parliamentary documentation. One report of the Committee of Experts session and three of its subcommittee; one report to the Economic and Social Council on the work of the Committee; and documents on and amendments to the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (240);

(ii) Inland Transport Committee

a. Substantive servicing of meetings of the Committee (12) and its Bureau (16), as well as of its 16 subsidiary bodies (618);

b. Parliamentary documentation. Reports of the Committee's annual sessions, including its work programme; two reports each on the status of application of international transport agreements and conventions, activities regarding assistance to countries in transition, analysis of the transport situation in ECE member countries and emerging development trends and activities of other ECE principal subsidiary bodies. Documentation for the Committee's subsidiary bodies, including reports and notes to the working parties on transport trends and economics (3), road transport (10), road traffic safety (13), the construction of vehicles (73), rail transport (12), inland water transport (14), combined transport (8), customs questions affecting transport (21), transport of dangerous goods (21), transport of perishable foodstuffs (4), and transport statistics (2);

c. Other services. Substantive servicing of 16 meetings of expert groups expected to be established by a legislative mandate during the biennium 2000–2001;

(b) *Other substantive activities*

(i) Promotion of accession to the ECE legal instruments on transport and to the set of ECE vehicle regulations;

(ii) Contribution to the elaboration and updating of legal instruments and regulations. Two new legal instruments; 8 updates to legal instruments; and 4 new and 60 updates of vehicle regulations;

(iii) Three reviews of the monitoring of the implementation of legal instruments;

(iv) Recurrent publications. *Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods* and its *Manual of Tests and Criteria*; *Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe* (2); *Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics for Europe* (2); *European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR)*; *European Provisions concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterway (ADN)*; and *Recommendations on Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels*;

(v) Non-recurrent publications. *TIR* [international road *transport] Handbook* (update); Map of the European Railways Network; *Glossary of Transport Statistics* (revised edition); consolidated text of the European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries (AGR) and its

amendments; *Agreement on the International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs (ATP)*; Map of E-Road Network (2); *Convention on the Contract for the Carriage of Goods by Inland Waterways (CMNI)*; *Inventory of Existing European Agreement on Main International Railway Lines (AGC) Standards and Parameters*; *Inventory of Existing European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (AGTC) Standards and Parameters*; *Handbook on Inland Water Transport in Europe*; and *Transport Information*;

(vi) Seminars. Four workshops on issues such as restructuring of railways; privatization of the transport sector; development of combined transport; development of inland waterway transport; and/or transport of dangerous goods;

(vii) Press releases and other informational material. Generally issued before and after the meetings of the Inland Transport Committee and other subsidiary bodies and include special events related to their work, and on the occasion of special events likely to attract the attention of the general public (seminars, exhibitions, road safety campaigns, etc.);

(viii) Technical materials. Approximately 3,000 documents to be stored electronically and made available via the Internet; update of databases on transport statistics, road traffic accidents, transport of dangerous goods, transport of perishable foodstuffs, urban transport and transport and the environment; technical regulations for road vehicles and their amendments (60); compendium of transport database and information system capabilities of ECE member countries; CD-ROM containing electronic presentation of the map of European inland waterways and related data; and the 1995 E-road census;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison*

(i) The implementation of the goals under the subprogramme, particularly the development of legal instruments, requires close cooperation and coordination with other intergovernmental and non-governmental bodies such as the European Commission, the European Parliament, the European Conference of Ministers of Transport, OECD, the Intergovernmental Organization for International Carriage by Rail, the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine, the Danube Commission, the International Railway Union, the International Road Transport Union, the International Road Federation and so on. Such cooperation requires attendance at the principal meetings of these organizations. The Transport Division will provide technical and administrative backstopping to two project groups created in 1997, one on infrastructure and one on border-crossing facilitation under the South-East European Cooperative Initiative;

(ii) Coordination activities at the inter-agency level are carried out through participation in meetings and exchange of information, as well as by contributing to the work of other ECE principal subsidiary bodies, United Nations programmes (UNEP, UNDP), the specialized agencies (UNCTAD, IMO, ICAO, ILO, WHO and ITU) and IAEA. This also includes participation in activities organized by ESCAP and/or UNCTAD for the benefit of central Asian and Caucasus member countries. Under the joint ECE/ESCAP Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia, the Transport Division will provide technical assistance and backstopping services for the implementation of the priority project on development of transport infrastructure and simplification of procedures for the transfer of goods, services and labour resources across national borders;

(d) *Technical cooperation (RB/XB)*

(i) Advisory services. Eight missions at the request of Governments;

(ii) Group training. Eight seminars on selected aspects related to transport, including under the trans-European motorway and the trans-European railway, to train some 300 officials;

(iii) Field projects

a. Under the trans-European motorway project, pre-investment activities, including data collection, will continue to be carried out, taking into account the projected development of transport infrastructure in the countries of the region;

b. Activities under the trans-European railway project will continue to examine infrastructural and organizational problems in the rail sector, as well as possibilities for the improvement of the current situation in rail transport in the countries of central and eastern Europe through investments and organizational measures. This will include consideration of combined transport and border-crossing facilitation procedures. ECE will serve as executing agency for both projects, which are financed through a trust fund agreement.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

18.40 The estimated requirements of $6,467,500 would provide for the posts shown in table 18.11.

Consultants and experts

18.41 A provision of $60,300, at maintenance level, would be required to cover specialized consultancy services not available in the secretariat to assist in the preparation of documentation and the development and implementation of ECE legal instruments in the field of transport, including preparation of technical and legal texts for the monitoring of the implementation of a number of major ECE legal instruments in the field of transport; computerization of ECE regulations annexed to the 1958 Agreement on the Construction of Vehicles; and preparation of specialized reports for review by the Commission's subsidiary bodies in the field of transport.

Travel

18.42 The estimated requirements of $64,600, at maintenance level, are proposed for participation in meetings organized by other international organizations in the region as well as for consultations with Governments concerning problems related to the implementation of ECE legal instruments in the field of transport.

Contractual services

18.43 The estimated requirements of $123,700, including resource growth of $21,400, would cover the external printing costs of such publications as the *Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods*, the *European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR)* and other publications under this subprogramme, as well as the production in electronic form of the maps of European inland waterways and the E-road network on CD-ROM.

Grants and contributions

18.44 A provision of $72,500, including resource growth of $9,800, is proposed as the proportionate share of this subprogramme in respect of the total computer-processing, telecommunications, data-storage and other specialized information technology services provided to ECE.

Subprogramme 3
Statistics

Table 18.12 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1996-1997 expenditures*	*1998-1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000-2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	6 060.1	6 916.5	162.2	2.3	7 078.7	92.9	7 171.6
Consultants and experts	36.1	36.1	8.0	22.1	44.1	0.8	44.9
Travel	53.5	83.2	–	–	83.2	4.1	87.3
Contractual services	6.4	15.8	(15.8)	(100.0)	–	–	–
Supplies and materials	3.5	4.4	–	–	4.4	–	4.4
Grants and contributions	–	688.0	(245.2)	(35.6)	442.8	8.0	450.8
Total	**6 159.6**	**7 744.0**	**(90.8)**	**(1.1)**	**7 653.2**	**105.8**	**7 759.0**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1996-1997 expenditures	*1998-1999 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*2000-2001 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
–	–	(i) United Nations organizations	–
–	–	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	–
–	–	(b) Substantive activities	–
		(c) Operational projects	
1 108.0	998.3	UNDP	494.3
113.9	776.4	UNFPA	–
1 221.9	**1 774.7**		**494.3**
7 381.5	**9 518.7**		**8 253.3**

Table 18.13 **Post requirements**

Subprogramme: Statistics

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1998 1999	*2000 2001*	*1998 1999*	*2000 2001*	*1998 1999*	*2000 2001*	*1998 1999*	*2000 2001*
Professional category and above								
D-1	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
P-5	3	3	–	–	–	–	3	3
P-4/3	9	9	–	–	–	–	9	9
P-2/1	4	5	–	–	–	–	4	5
Total	**17**	**18**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**17**	**18**
General Service category								
Principal level	2	2	–	–	–	–	2	2
Other level	16	16	–	–	–	–	16	16
Total	**18**	**18**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**18**	**18**
Grand total	**35**	**36**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**35**	**36**

18.45 The work under the subprogramme will be carried out by the Statistical Division and steered by the Conference of European Statisticians under the joint auspices of ECE and the United Nations Statistical Commission.

18.46 The objectives of this subprogramme are: (a) to respond in an efficient and effective way to the priorities and needs of national statistical offices in the ECE region, and in particular to address the specific circumstances and needs of economies in transition in the field of statistics; (b) to ensure that essential macroeconomic and other statistics on the ECE region are collected, processed and made available in a timely manner both to users within the framework of ECE and to other international organizations; (c) to improve national statistics; (d) to promote coordination of the statistical work of all international agencies active in the region; and (e) to promote the standardization of statistical concepts and methods.

18.47 The activities will focus on: (a) facilitating the exchange of experiences among countries on problems encountered in methods and techniques used for collecting, processing, disseminating and analysing economic, social, demographic and environmental statistics, and thus promoting the adoption of the best practices, norms and standards; (b) collecting and presenting coherently statistical information from ECE member countries that are needed for ECE analytical studies and statistical publications and by organizations on a data-sharing basis in fields identified by the Commission and/or the Conference of European Statisticians; (c) continuing the assistance to countries undergoing the restructuring of their national statistical systems (in the framework of the regular programme of work, the regional advisers programme and regional statistical projects); (d) organizing coordination meetings and maintaining the integrated presentation of international statistical work in the region aimed at coordinating all statistical activities of international institutions so as to avoid duplication in efforts to lessen the reporting burden on countries and to better utilize secretariat resources; and (e) producing statistical publications prepared in the Statistical Division.

Expected accomplishments

18.48 The expected accomplishments by the end of the biennium will include: (a) the use of improved and new statistical methodologies in national statistical offices in the region; (b) the wider implementation of

statistical methods and standards relevant to market economies in national statistical offices of countries with economies in transition in the region; (c) the collection of statistical data for the ECE statistical and analytical publications; and (d) improved coordination among international organizations in the collection and sharing of statistical data on countries in the region and in the development and implementation of methods and techniques that ensure international comparability of data.

18.49 The Statistical Division coordinates all statistical activities carried out by ECE, particularly in relation to national statistical offices, and it also provides technical services to ECE in the area of graphic design.

Outputs

18.50 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) Conference of European Statisticians. Substantive servicing of meetings of the Conference (10) and its Bureau (20); substantive servicing of ad hoc intergovernmental meetings on the European Comparison Programme (10), consumer prices (10), agricultural statistics (18), the system of national accounts (10), business registers (8), energy statistics (5), cultural statistics (6), migration statistics (6), gender statistics (6), labour statistics (4), household income (6), registers and administrative records for social and demographic statistics (6), health statistics (8), population and housing censuses (4), environmental methods (10), management of statistical information technology (6), the Seminar on Integrated Statistical Information Systems and related matters (ISIS 2000) (6), dissemination to information media (5), statistical metadata (6), data editing (6), data confidentiality and disclosure control (6) and geographical information systems (6);

(ii) Parliamentary documentation. Twenty reports to the Bureau of the Conference and 8 reports to the plenary sessions of the Conference; 20 reports or papers for discussion to ad hoc intergovernmental meetings on consumer prices (2), agricultural statistics (2), the system of national accounts (4), the European Comparison Programme, business registers, migration statistics, household income, registers and administrative records for social and demographic statistics, management of statistics information technology, ISIS 2000, dissemination to information media, statistical metadata, data editing, data confidentiality and disclosure control and geographical information systems;

(b) *Other substantive services*

(i) Recurrent publications. *Trends in Europe and North America: Statistical Yearbook of the ECE* (annual); *World Robotics* (annual); and *Statistical Journal of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe* (quarterly);

(ii) Non-recurrent publications. *Women and Men in Europe and North America* and *International Comparison in Europe* (vol. IV, statistical standards and studies series);

(iii) Technical material. Update and maintenance of the macroeconomic database and the Internet site of the Conference of European Statisticians and compilation of statistics for research studies undertaken by the Economic Analysis Division;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison*

(i) Substantive participation in statistical meetings organized by and in cooperation with Eurostat, OECD and the Council of Europe, comprising meetings on statistical cooperation of the European Union with countries in central and eastern Europe, joint programme review with Eurostat, OECD and the United Nations Statistical Division, business registers, industrial statistics, international migration, and electronic data interchange; and participation in meetings organized by the International Statistical Institute;

(ii) Participation in activities of funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system, including substantive participation in statistical meetings organized by the Statistical Division, IMF, FAO and so on in the fields of statistics in which the Conference of European Statisticians is active, such as meetings on national accounts, agricultural statistics, classifications and social and demographic statistics; and substantive participation in the work of the Statistical Commission and the Administrative Committee on Coordination Subcommittee on Statistical Activities;

(d) *Technical cooperation (RB/XB)*

(i) Advisory services at the request of Governments, including ad hoc consultations with experts of national statistical offices on their compilation of statistical data needed by ECE for analytical and publication purposes;

(ii) Group training in the framework of regional statistical projects, including preparation of inputs and participation in regional statistical meetings, training workshops and seminars.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

18.51 The proposed requirements of $7,078,700, reflecting resource growth of $162,200, would provide for the posts shown in table 18.13. These requirements reflect the proposed redeployment from subprogramme 4, Economic analysis, of one P-2 post to strengthen this subprogramme in line with the reorganization of the programme of work resulting from the 1997 reform.

Consultants and experts

18.52 The estimated requirements of $44,100, including resource growth of $8,000, relate to the provision of outside expertise in the areas of gender, household income statistics, demographics, geographical information systems, agriculture, price and environmental accounting, as well as statistics on specialized subjects covered by the annual yearbook *Trends in Europe and North America*. The increase of $8,000 reflects expenditure experience.

Travel

18.53 The proposed provision of $83,200, at maintenance level, would cover the cost of travel for consultations and participation in meetings with Eurostat, OECD, the Council of Europe, the International Statistical Institute, the Statistical Commission, the Administrative Committee on Coordination Subcommittee on Statistical Activities and other international organizations, funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system undertaken to coordinate the work programme.

Supplies and materials

18.54 The estimated requirements of $4,400, at maintenance level, relate to the acquisition of special statistical publications and data services produced by national and international statistical services. These materials are required to support statistical research activities.

Grants and contributions

18.55 The estimated requirements of $442,800, reflecting a decrease of $245,200, would cover the proportionate share of this subprogramme in respect of the total computer-processing, telecommunications, data-storage and other specialized IT services provided to ECE. The decrease is due to a reduction in the use of these services, as well as projected expenditures based on the current pattern of expenditures.

Subprogramme 4
Economic analysis

Table 18.14 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1996-1997 expenditures*	*1998-1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000-2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	5 996.1	5 074.5	(162.2)	(3.1)	4 912.3	83.7	4 996.0
Consultants and experts	37.7	74.5	(8.0)	(10.7)	66.5	1.2	67.7
Travel	33.2	41.6	(5.0)	(12.0)	36.6	1.8	38.4
Contractual services	11.0	8.6	25.4	295.3	34.0	0.6	34.6
Supplies and materials	24.6	20.5	20.1	98.0	40.6	0.8	41.4
Grants and contributions	–	221.5	(129.5)	(58.4)	92.0	1.7	93.7
Total	**6 102.6**	**5 441.2**	**(259.2)**	**(4.7)**	**5 182.0**	**89.8**	**5 271.8**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1996-1997 expenditures	*1998-1999 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*2000-2001 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
–	–	(i) United Nations organizations	–
–	–	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	–
		(b) Substantive activities	
6.7	–	World Conference on Women	–
		(c) Operational projects	
1 084.8	827.6	UNFPA	
71.6	175.8	Technical cooperation trust funds	15.8
1 163.1	**1 003.4**	**Total**	**15.8**
7 265.7	**6 444.6**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**5 287.6**

Table 18.15 Post requirements

Subprogramme: Economic analysis

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1998 1999	*2000 2001*	*1998 1999*	*2000 2001*	*1998 1999*	*2000 2001*	*1998 1999*	*2000 2001*
Professional category and above								
D-1	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
P-5	5	5	–	–	–	–	5	5
P-4/3	8	8	–	–	–	–	8	8
P-2/1	2	1	–	–	–	–	2	1
Total	**16**	**15**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**16**	**15**
General Service category								
Other level	8	8	–	–	–	–	8	8
Total	**8**	**8**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**8**	**8**
Grand total	**24**	**23**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**24**	**23**

18.56 This subprogramme will be implemented by the Economic Analysis Division.

18.57 For the biennium 2000–2001, the objectives are: (a) to provide in-depth and comprehensive analysis of current economic developments and problems in the ECE region, and especially in the countries with economies in transition, and the economic and financial relations of those countries with other countries in the region and the rest of the world. Special attention will be paid to south-east European countries and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), and whenever appropriate to the gender dimension of economic issues, structural change and institutional problems; (b) to promote policy debates on the economic problems and policies of countries in the ECE region, on the basis of the Division's analysis; and (c) to review and support the implementation of the programmes adopted at the recent regional and global population conferences, in particular the International Conference on Population and Development.

18.58 The activities corresponding to the above objectives will include:

(a) The *Economic Survey of Europe*, which, in line with the Plan of Action, will be an annual volume of three issues. The first issue of each volume will focus on developments in the region in the past and coming years, with special emphasis on the countries with economies in transition and their relations with the rest of the world; it will also deal with selected structural and institutional aspects of the transition process. The second will address selected topics, including other areas of ECE work, and the third will focus on the trade and external financial relations of the countries with economies in transition;

(b) Policy debates. A one-day seminar will be held immediately prior to the annual session of the Commission to which economists from the government, academic and business sectors, as well as from other international organizations and non-governmental organizations, will be invited. The conclusions of the seminar will provide an additional input to the economic debate based on the first issue of the *Survey*, which will take place on the first day of the annual session;

(c) In the field of population, the secretariat will contribute to the continued implementation of the recommendations of the 1993 European Population Conference and the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action in the ECE region, particularly in countries with economies in transition. Particular attention will be paid to salient population issues and policy developments identified in the conclusions of the 1998 Regional Population Meeting and in the

document on research areas emanating from the Meeting and submitted to the Conference of European Statisticians and to the special session of the General Assembly on population and development. The subsequent development of activities in the field of population and development would be based on a new cooperation programme with UNFPA, which is currently under discussion.

Expected accomplishments

18.59 The expected accomplishments by the end of the biennium include the availability of high-quality economic information and analysis to member Governments, bodies and agencies of the United Nations system, other international organizations, the private sector and non-governmental organizations. In addition, high-quality substantive economic discussion is expected to take place among the participants attending the seminars and other meetings of the Commission. The results of the population activities would be enhanced knowledge of and strengthened national capacity in the formulation and implementation of key national population policies and programmes in ECE countries, in particular those with economies in transition.

Outputs

18.60 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) Economic and Social Council. Parliamentary documentation. *Economic Survey of Europe* and corresponding summary (2);

(ii) Commission

a. Substantive servicing. Four meetings each of the plenary session of the Commission and the Seminar on Economic Developments in the ECE Region;

b. Parliamentary documentation. *Economic Survey of Europe*;

(b) *Other substantive activities (XB/RB)*

(i) Recurrent publications. *Economic Survey of Europe* (annual volume of three issues) and *Economic Studies* series related to the transition process (2);

(ii) Non-recurrent publications. Analytical studies on selected aspects of the process of economic reforms in a transition country or group of countries (4); report on partnership and fertility in Europe: a revolution?; and a report on population ageing and older persons in Europe and North America at the end of the century;

(iii) Press releases. Announcement of major publications as well as special events such as seminars and seminar reports (10);

(iv) Technical material for outside users. Web sites providing access to summary chapters and tables of publications and site providing information on population activities, including results of population analysis;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison*

(i) Contribution to the preparation of the *World Economic and Social Survey* by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, including coordination meetings and the preparation of the Joint UNCTAD/Department of Economic and Social Affairs *World Economic Report* and the UNCTAD *Trade and Development Report*; cooperation with other bodies in the United Nations system, such as IMF, the World Bank, and WTO, dealing with similar economic research and analysis issues; substantive contributions to workshops on economic issues in the countries with economies in transition; and participation in the annual sessions of the United Nations Commission on Population and Development and ad hoc UNFPA meetings;

(ii) Cooperation in activities of intergovernmental bodies outside the United Nations system, including substantive participation in meetings organized by intergovernmental bodies such as the European Union, OSCE, the Council of Europe, NATO, OECD, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the Bank for International Settlements;

(iii) Participation and collaboration in conferences, workshops, symposia and seminars organized by non-governmental organizations such as the Association of European Conjuncture-Institutes, the European Economic Association and other relevant organizations, as well as research institutes and universities active in the areas of economic research and analysis;

(d) *Technical cooperation (RB/XB).* Advisory services at the request of Governments, comprising ad hoc consultations with experts from government agencies, including national population institutes and national statistical offices, on the implementation of the final documents of recent population conferences as well as their participation in population and development analysis; and meetings, training workshops and seminars to be organized in the framework of the new cooperation programme with UNFPA with the view to building capacity and exchanging experiences in support of population policies and programmes.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

18.61 The estimated requirements of $4,912,300, reflecting a decrease of $162,200, would provide for the posts shown in table 18.15. The proposed staffing resources reflect the outward redeployment from this subprogramme of one P-2 post to subprogramme 3, Statistics, in the context of the reorganization of ECE activities following the reform process launched in 1997.

Consultants and experts

18.62 The estimated requirements of $66,500, reflecting a reduction of $8,000, would provide for outside specialized expertise to assist the ECE secretariat in preparing the three annual issues of the *Economic Survey of Europe*. Consultants will be requested to prepare background papers on topics to be determined and agreed upon with ECE member Governments. These reports will deal with specific problems of macroeconomic policies, structural reforms and international economic relations for which the required level of expertise is not available in the ECE secretariat.

Travel

18.63 The estimated requirements of $36,600, reflecting a decrease of $5,000, relate to consultation missions with national and intergovernmental organizations on substantive issues, coordination in the preparation of publications and cooperation in economic analysis and research.

Contractual services

18.64 The estimated requirements of $34,000, reflecting resource growth of $25,400, relate to the actual printing costs for the *Economic Survey of Europe* (three issues per year).

Supplies and materials

18.65 The estimated requirements of $40,600, reflecting an increase of $20,100, would cover the costs for library books, supplies, membership fees of institutions and traditional and electronic subscriptions and monographs.

Grants and contributions

18.66 A provision of $92,000, reflecting a decrease of $129,500, is proposed as the proportionate share of this subprogramme in respect of the total computer-processing, telecommunications, data-storage and other specialized information technology services provided to ECE. The decrease is due to a reduction in the use of these services, as well as projected expenditures based on the current pattern of these expenditures.

Subprogramme 5
Sustainable energy

Table 18.16 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1996-1997 expenditures*	*1998-1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000-2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	3 285.1	1 962.0	40.5	2.0	2 002.5	34.7	2 037.2
Consultants and experts	15.2	17.6	5.6	31.8	23.2	0.4	23.6
Travel	37.9	27.7	9.9	35.7	37.6	1.8	39.4
Grants and contributions	–	14.0	6.2	44.2	20.2	0.4	20.6
Total	**3 338.2**	**2 021.3**	**62.2**	**3.0**	**2 083.5**	**37.3**	**2 120.8**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1996-1997 expenditures	*1998-1999 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*2000-2001 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
–	–	(i) United Nations organizations	–
–	–	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	–
		(b) Substantive activities	
		Trust Fund for the Energy Efficiency	
350.4	406.8	2000 Project	389.9
		(c) Operational projects	
741.0	850.4	Technical cooperation trust funds	872.4
138.2	40.0	UNDP	–
1 229.6	**1 297.2**		**1 262.3**
4 567.8	**3 318.5**		**3 383.1**

Table 18.17 **Post requirements**

Subprogramme: Sustainable energy

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1998 1999	*2000 2001*	*1998 1999*	*2000 2001*	*1998 1999*	*2000 2001*	*1998 1999*	*2000 2001*
Professional category and above								
D-1	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
P-5	1	1	–	–	1	1	2	2
P-4/3	4	4	–	–	1	1	5	5
P-2/1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total	**6**	**6**	**–**	**–**	**2**	**2**	**8**	**8**
General Service category								
Other level	3	3	–	–	–	–	3	3
Total	**3**	**3**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**3**	**3**
Grand total	**9**	**9**	**–**	**–**	**2**	**2**	**11**	**11**

18.67 The programme of work will be implemented by the Sustainable Energy Division.

18.68 The overall objective of the subprogramme is to promote the development of more sustainable energy systems in the countries of the region, and in particular in those with economies in transition. To this end, during the biennium 2000–2001, the subprogramme will: (a) contribute to the harmonization of legislation and policies and to the development and implementation of norms and standards, including labelling and classification systems; (b) focus on issues related to the restructuring, opening up and liberalization of the energy sector; (c) improve energy conservation and efficiency, in particular in countries with economies in transition; (d) promote increased energy transport interconnections, especially in electricity and gas; (e) enhance environmental protection, in particular with respect to the use of coal and thermal power; and (f) strengthen technical assistance programmes for countries with economies in transition.

18.69 The activities to be carried out will include exchange of views, information and experiences, preparation of analyses, comparison and harmonization of policies and elaboration of standards and norms in order to promote the implementation of sustainable energy programmes and policies in the ECE region, and to provide assistance to countries with economies in transition in introducing market-oriented energy policies and structures with a view to promoting the integration of their energy economies with those of other countries in the ECE region. In addition, regional conclusions, proposals and recommendations will be developed for consideration by the Commission on Sustainable Development in 2001.

Expected accomplishments

18.70 In the biennium 2000–2001, the following accomplishments are expected to be achieved: (a) the adoption of norms and standards, including labelling and classification systems, the harmonization of legislation, regulations and policies in the field of energy and the provision of assistance in their worldwide implementation in cooperation with other regional commissions; (b) the identification of issues and related recommendations in the restructuring, liberalization and opening up of energy markets; (c) the implementation of energy efficiency projects and demonstration zones as well as training on project financing and management; (d) formulation of recommendations on environment-energy linkages in the context of the Kyoto Protocol follow-up and the implementation of ECE environmental conventions and

protocols, notably in the coal and thermal power sectors; and (e) facilitating the transfer of information and market-oriented natural gas policy-making knowledge to countries with economies in transition.

Outputs

18.71 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) Committee on Sustainable Energy

a. Substantive servicing. Annual meetings of the Committee (6); meetings of the Ad hoc Group of Experts on Coal and Thermal Power (8); and meetings on extension of European electricity interconnection (8);

b. Parliamentary documentation. Reports on the restructuring of the energy sector in the context of sustainable development; the opening up and liberalization of energy markets; energy pricing; interaction between energy and financial markets; energy profile in CIS; implementation of the United Nations Framework Classification for Reserves/Resources: Solid Fuels and Mineral Commodities; analysis and recommendations for the Commission on Sustainable Development in 2001; security of energy supplies; energy and the environment in the light of Kyoto; legislation and policies in the energy sector; and energy in central Asia and the Caspian Sea;

(ii) Steering Committee of the Energy Efficiency 2000 Project

a. Substantive servicing. Annual meetings of the Steering Committee (6); meetings of the Ad hoc Group of Experts on Financial Engineering (8); and meetings of the Ad hoc Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency Standards and Labels (8);

b. Parliamentary documentation. Reports on the status of the Energy Efficiency 2000 Project and energy efficiency demonstration zones (2); energy efficiency financing and business planning (2); and energy efficiency standards and labelling systems (2);

(iii) Working Party on Gas

a. Substantive servicing. Annual meetings of the Working Party (6); and meetings of experts on natural gas resources (8); and on the supply and use of gas (12);

b. Parliamentary documentation. Reports on economic reforms and restructuring in central and eastern Europe and their implications and significance for gas markets and the gas industry; developments in the gas industry, including trade and interconnections/extensions of gas networks; assessment of natural gas resources, including geological and geophysical methods of prospecting for natural gas (2); and construction, management and maintenance of gas transportation systems (2);

(iv) Advisory Board of the Gas Centre

a. Substantive servicing. Annual meetings of the Advisory Board (4); the Ad hoc Group of Experts on Database (8); and the Ad hoc Group of Experts on Gas Rate-Making (8);

b. Parliamentary documentation. Two reports on the status of the Gas Centre project (2); and approximately four reports from workshops and high-level conferences;

(b) *Other substantive activities (RB/XB)*

(i) Workshops on the strengthening and reform of the energy industry in countries with economies in transition (2) and on sustainable energy development (2); and three seminars, including one on the structure of steel consumption by economic sectors and two on topics related to the steel and chemical industry;

(ii) Non-recurrent publications. Study on underground gas storage in Europe; study on extension of interconnection of gas networks in Europe; reform and restructuring of the gas industry in countries with economies in transition; guide to energy efficiency laws in central and eastern Europe; barriers to energy efficiency project financing for commercial bank managers; training manual on gas rate-making; gas price policies; gas marketing; restructuring of the coal industry in countries with economies in transition; definitions for the United Nations Framework Classification for Reserves/Resources: Solid Fuels and Mineral Commodities;

(iii) Press releases on energy studies and seminars (10);

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison*

(i) Cooperation and harmonization of activities with other intergovernmental organizations, including the European Commission, OECD, the International Energy Agency and the Energy Charter Secretariat by organizing joint activities and attending their workshops, seminars and annual sessions;

(ii) Provision of technical back-up and support to the South-East European Cooperative Initiative (SECI) in the following projects: energy efficiency in south-east Europe, interconnection of natural gas networks — diversification of gas supply and improvement of security of supply in south-east Europe and development of interconnection of electric power systems of the SECI countries for better integration into the European system; and provision of technical support to the Project Working Group on Energy and Water of the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia;

(iii) In order to fulfil its mandate in the field of energy and with a view to sharing experiences, avoiding duplication, improving services to member States and reinforcing complementary programmes of work, ECE participates in other global, regional and subregional energy forums, such as annual sessions, conferences and workshops of the World Energy Council, the World Coal Institute, the International Gas Union, the International Union of Producers and Distributors of Electrical Energy and the European Grouping of the Electricity Supply Industry;

(iv) Cooperation with development banks, such as EBRD, the World Bank, the European Investment Bank and the Global Environment Facility;

(v) Liaison and cooperation with entities and organizations in the United Nations system, in particular the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, UNDP, IAEA, ILO, WHO and the Commission on Sustainable Development secretariat, as well as other regional commissions, by organizing joint studies and activities as well as attending their events;

(d) *Technical cooperation (RB/XB)*

(i) Advisory services at the request of Governments

a. Energy Efficiency 2000 Project. Ten missions relating to development of financing mechanisms for energy efficiency projects; establishment of energy efficiency demonstration zones; and development of energy efficiency standards and labelling systems;

b. Gas Centre. Four missions relating to assistance to the gas industry in economies in transition in setting market-oriented legal and regulatory frameworks; development of gas policy and pricing instruments; establishment of sound investment promotion policies; and international harmonization of legal and regulatory frameworks;

(ii) Group training. Energy Efficiency 2000 Project: 12 seminars and workshops, including business briefing seminars at international trade fairs and workshops on business planning and financial engineering for energy efficiency investment projects, energy efficiency standards and labelling systems and the development of energy efficiency demonstration zones; symposia on energy

efficiency policies in the context of sustainable energy development in the ECE region; assistance in training personnel for the preparation of investment projects in central and eastern European economies in transition for submission to funding agencies and international financial institutions; and four seminars and workshops on energy reforms on issues relating to the transition of central and eastern European member States;

(iii) Field projects

a. Energy Efficiency 2000 Project. Trade and cooperation in energy efficient, environmentally sound technologies and management practices between the market economies and the formerly centrally planned economies through the development of energy efficiency demonstration zones in selected cities of central and eastern European member States;

b. Gas Centre. Facilitation of natural gas network interconnections and harmonization of legal and regulatory frameworks for the gas industry, in particular in economies in transition, to foster diversification of the natural gas supply and to enhance industry cooperation and integration in the region.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

18.72 The estimated requirements of $2,002,500, reflecting an increase of $40,500, would provide for the posts shown in table 18.17. The increase is due to the proposed reclassification of one post, whose functions include increased responsibilities for three major regional projects on natural gas as well as servicing of the Working Party on Gas and its subsidiary bodies, from the P-3 to the P-4 level. As a result of the ECE reform, natural gas was identified as a priority within the subprogramme.

Consultants and experts

18.73 The estimated requirements of $23,200, including resource growth of $5,600, would provide for hiring outside specialized expertise needed on specific issues related to economic reform and restructuring in energy industries, development of energy infrastructure and development of conclusions and recommendations on energy policies and strategies for sustainable energy development, including energy efficiency and conservation policies, on a regional and subregional basis.

Travel

18.74 The estimated requirements of $37,600, including an increase of $9,900, would provide for participation in meetings for consultation, cooperation and liaison with international, multilateral, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the energy field. The increase of $9,900 reflects expenditure experience.

Grants and contributions

18.75 A provision of $20,200, reflecting resource growth of $6,200, is proposed as the proportionate share of this subprogramme in respect of the total computer-processing, telecommunications, data-storage and other specialized information technology services provided to ECE.

Subprogramme 6
Trade, industry and enterprise development

Table 18.18 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1996-1997 expenditures*	*1998-1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000-2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	1 581.1	3 019.9	2 658.0	88.0	5 677.9	94.9	5 772.8
Consultants and experts	–	21.7	22.0	101.3	43.7	0.8	44.5
Travel	18.5	46.4	31.8	68.5	78.2	3.8	82.0
Contractual services	3.5	10.1	18.9	187.1	29.0	0.5	29.5
Supplies and materials	–	–	6.2	–	6.2	0.2	6.4
Grants and contributions	–	112.8	(28.9)	(25.6)	83.9	1.5	85.4
Total	**1 603.1**	**3 210.9**	**2 708.0**	**84.3**	**5 918.9**	**101.7**	**6 020.6**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1996-1997 expenditures	*1998-1999 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*2000-2001 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of	
–	–	(i) United Nations organizations	–
–	–	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	–
		(b) Substantive activities	
5.6	42.4	Trust Fund for the United Nations EDIFACT System	75.7
		(c) Operational projects	
1 429.4	1 129.6	Technical cooperation trust funds	574.7
1 435.0	**1 172.0**	**Total**	**650.4**
3 038.1	**4 382.9**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**6 671.0**

Table 18.19 **Post requirements**

Subprogramme: Trade, industry and enterprise development

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1998 1999	*2000 2001*	*1998 1999*	*2000 2001*	*1998 1999*	*2000 2001*	*1998 1999*	*2000 2001*
Professional category and above								
D-1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	1
P-5	2	3	–	–	–	1	2	4
P-4/3	5	10	–	–	5	–	10	10
P-2/1	2	4	–	–	–	–	2	4
Total	**9**	**18**	**–**	**–**	**5**	**1**	**14**	**19**
General Service category								
Other level	6	10	–	–	–	–	6	10
Total	**6**	**10**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**6**	**10**
Grand total	**15**	**28**	**–**	**–**	**5**	**1**	**20**	**29**

18.76 The resources previously allocated to former subprogramme 4, Trade facilitation, have been redeployed in their entirety to this subprogramme.

18.77 Work under this subprogramme will be carried out by the Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development Division under the guidance of the Committee on Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development. It has three main areas of concentration, namely:

(a) Trade facilitation with the following objectives: (I) to develop and promote simple, transparent and effective processes for global commerce; (ii) to manage the development and maintenance of the international standard, EDIFACT (Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport); and (iii) to develop, maintain and promote internationally accepted and harmonized standards and recommendations for the commercial quality of perishable produce;

(b) Trade and investment promotion with the following objectives: (I) to assist member Governments, in particular those with economies in transition, to align their legal, regulatory and enforcement systems and institutions with international best practices in those areas related to commercial transactions, foreign direct investment and technical harmonization; (ii) to provide a forum for the elaboration of intergovernmental agreements, guides and standards on matters such as technical harmonization and legal reforms; and (iii) to assist member countries with economies in transition to identify problems and bottlenecks that could hamper the smooth implementation of market economy principles, foreign direct investment and private enterprise development;

(c) Industry and enterprise development the objective of which is to stimulate cross-sectoral enterprise development, privatization and industrial restructuring, especially in the countries with economies in transition.

18.78 In the biennium 2000–2001, the following activities will be emphasized: (a) in the area of trade facilitation, the development of internationally agreed standards and intergovernmental recommendations developed by the Centre for Facilitation of Procedures and Practices for Administration, Commerce and Transport (CEFACT), including EDIFACT, as well as supporting measures for electronic commerce and agricultural quality standards; (b) in the area of trade and investment promotion, development of legal instruments, encouragement and transfer of norms, standards and best practices to strengthen the legal framework and build local capacity for supporting trade and investment and development of technical harmonization and

conformity assessment; and (c) in the area of industry and enterprise development, projects, studies and seminars with cross-sectoral application, in some cases based on the chemical and steel industries. Activities related to steel and chemicals depend on the renewal of the mandates of the Ad hoc Group of Experts on the Chemical Industry and the Ad hoc Group of Experts on Steel.

18.79 In all these areas, gender-related activities will be promoted to the maximum extent feasible.

Expected accomplishments

18.80 The expected accomplishments of this subprogramme will include a more predictable and productive legal and business environment for trade and enterprise development. These improvements will take the form of adoption and use of new legal acts and procedures in the countries with economies in transition based on ECE recommendations; the direct participation of the private sector and Governments in the elaboration and implementation of new standards and recommendations on electronic business and on perishable produce; increased awareness and implementation of best practices, procedures and guidelines in the countries with economies in transition in the areas of trade and investment promotion, enterprise development, standardization and industry restructuring; and a wider involvement of the private sector in the subprogramme's activities as well as more public-private partnerships in relevant areas at the country level.

Outputs

18.81 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development

a. Substantive servicing. Annual session (10 meetings); forum on the Internet and enterprise development in the countries with economies in transition (2); annual round tables (4); and advisory groups on Internet enterprise development (4);

b. Parliamentary documentation. Two reports each of meetings of the Committee and the Advisory Group on Internet enterprise development; programme of work for the Committee (2); trade policy review papers (2); reports on progress achieved by CEFACT (2), the Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce and Quality Development (2), the Working Party on International Contract Practices in Industry (2) and the Working Party on Technical Harmonization and Standardization Policies (2); two reports each on the revision of the European Convention on International Commercial Arbitration, the activities of the secretariat in the area of liaison with other organizations, the organization of seminars and workshops, the activities of the secretariat in the area of development of small and medium-sized enterprises, cooperation with the business community, recent developments in extrabudgetary activities in support of the work programme and, in particular, the work in countries in transition, recent developments in the regional advisory activities in support of the countries in transition, trade- and investment-related activities of other principal subsidiary bodies and studies for the Committee's round tables (2);

(ii) Centre for Facilitation of Procedures and Practices for Administration, Commerce and Transport

a. Substantive servicing. Annual meetings of CEFACT (16);

b. Parliamentary documentation. Reports of the CEFACT annual meetings (2), its working groups (10), its ad hoc technical groups (4) and its steering group (2), and information documents on topics to be selected by CEFACT (3);

(iii) Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce and Quality Development

a. Substantive servicing. Annual meetings of the Working Party (8); meetings of the specialized sections of the Working Party on coordination of standardization of fresh fruit and vegetables (16), standardization of dry and dried produce (fruit) (16), standardization of early and ware potatoes (4), standardization of seed potatoes (10) and standardization of meat (10);

b. Parliamentary documentation. Two reports of the meetings of the Working Party (2) and nine reports from the specialized sections of the Working Party (9);

(iv) Working Party on International Contract Practices in Industry

a. Substantive servicing of the annual meetings of the Working Party (10);

b. Parliamentary documentation. Two reports from the meetings of the Working Party; two reports each on the activities of the Real Estate Advisory Group, the Build-Operate-Transfer Working Group, the intellectual property rights group (the exact name is still to be decided upon) and the International Arbitration Convention Working Group;

(v) Working Party on Technical Harmonization and Standardization Policies

a. Substantive servicing of the annual meetings of the Working Party (10);

b. Parliamentary documentation. Two reports from the meetings of the Working Party; one report each on transposition of international standards, standardization and coordination, harmonization of standards and regulations, standardization developments, conformity assessment procedures and quality management systems;

(vi) Ad hoc Group of Experts on the Chemical Industry

a. Substantive servicing of meetings of the Ad hoc Group of Experts (10); meetings on the comparative data bank of chemical legislation in ECE member countries (2); and meetings of experts for the pilot project demonstrating the environmental clean-up of selected sites polluted by chemicals (2);

b. Parliamentary documentation. Two reports of the Ad hoc Group of Experts; reports on the annual meeting of experts on the pilot project (2); two reports on matters arising from sessions of the Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development affecting the work of the Ad hoc Group of Experts; one report each on progress on chemical legislation, the directory of chemical producers and a seminar; and two reports on the regional environmental management centre;

(vii) Ad hoc Group of Experts on Steel

a. Substantive servicing of meetings of the Ad hoc Group of Experts (10); and meetings of experts on the steel market (4);

b. Parliamentary documentation. Two reports of the Ad hoc Group of Experts; two reports each on seminars; meetings on the developments of the steel market; matters arising from sessions of the Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development affecting the work of the Ad hoc Group of Experts; and round table on barriers to industrial restructuring resulting from overmanning in the steel industry;

(b) *Other services*

(i) Trade facilitation. Meetings of working groups mandated by CEFACT (120);

(ii) Trade and investment promotion. Meetings of advisory groups mandated by the Working Party on International Contract Practices in Industry (96);

(iii) Annual meetings of rapporteurs and coordinators of the Working Party on Technical Harmonization and Standardization Policies (12);

(c) *Other substantive activities (RB/XB)*

(i) Recurrent publications. CEFACT annual report (2); Trade Data Interchange Directory (electronic publication) (4); Trade Data Elements Directory; United Nations Code for Ports and Other Locations (LOCODE) (electronic publication) (2); annual CD-ROM on selected activities of the Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development; *Internet Enterprise Development Report* (2); *The Chemical Industry* (annual review); *The Steel Market in 2000 and Prospects for 2001*; *The Steel Market in 2001 and Prospects for 2002*; *Statistics of World Trade in Steel*; *Annual Bulletin of Steel Statistics for Europe*; and *Iron and Steel Scrap* (ninth update);

(ii) Non-recurrent publications. In the area of trade facilitation, new and revised trade facilitation recommendations (12), guide for small and medium enterprises and countries with economies in transition for the implementation of electronic commerce (2), revised standards for dry and dried fruit, revised standards for fresh fruit and vegetables, ECE standard for bovine carcasses and commercial cuts and revised ECE standard on seed potatoes; in the area of trade and investment promotion, intergovernmental agreement on technical harmonization, guide on trade, finance and investment issues in countries with economies in transition (2), guide on legal reform issues in countries with economies in transition (2), ECE standardization list, final report on the project for capacity-building in trade finance and investment for the timber sector in the Russian Federation, report on sustainable management of timber enterprises and recommendations to improve trade procedures in the timber industry of the Russian Federation; in the area of industry and enterprise development, study related to enterprise development on issues to be agreed by the Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development (3), report on Internet business services and payment for development in countries with economies in transition (2), report on on-line innovation systems in countries with economies in transition (2), directory of chemical producers and products (2), comparative data bank on chemical legislation (CHEMLEX) (third and fourth editions on CD-ROM), compendium of soil decontamination technologies and companies and report of the round-table discussions on the chemical industry (2);

(iii) Seminars on standardization issues; trade, finance and investment issues in countries with economies in transition (2); legal reform issues in countries with economies in transition (2); improving trade finance and investment in CIS (6); Internet enterprise development (2); and enterprise development in CIS (2);

(iv) Information brochures on trade facilitation and EDIFACT, CEFACT and the Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development and on enterprise development work; fact sheets on work; and publications related to the chemical and steel industries;

(v) Press releases. To be issued on the occasion of meetings, forums and the issuance of publications highlighting major developments in trade facilitation, trade and enterprise promotion, standardization issues, the chemical industry and steel, as well as for seminars and exhibitions to attract the attention of the general public (32);

(vi) Technical material for outside users. Trade facilitation, EDIFACT and electronic commerce on-line training manual and technical material to be published both on paper and electronically; and ongoing publication on the World Wide Web of information on the activities and work under the three areas of the subprogramme;

(d) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison*. Participation in and/or contribution to meetings, conferences, workshops, seminars and symposia organized by international, intergovernmental and professional organizations on questions relating to trade, industry and enterprise development as follows: WTO meetings related to trade facilitation work and technical

barriers to trade; the ECE/UNCTAD/ITC Intersecretariat Coordinating Task Force; a joint project with UNCTAD in the area of electronic commerce or trade facilitation; joint seminar and training session on trade facilitation and implementation strategies for electronic commerce and standards with other regional commissions; consultations in the establishment of an effective information exchange system among the five regional commissions in the area of trade, finance and investment; participation in the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Build-Operate-Transfer Working Group and other groups undertaking work related to that of the Working Party on International Contract Practices in Industry; participation in the FAO/WHO Codex Committee on Fresh Fruit and Vegetables (the ECE agriculture quality standards serve as the basis for standards developed by the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission); participation in meetings of the World Bank on investment promotion and of OECD on the development of rules related to electronic commerce and in meetings on the scheme for the application of international standards for fruits and vegetables (the ECE agriculture quality standards are adopted and used by the European Union); participation in the OECD Trade Committee and in the annual meetings of the CIS national standards organizations; the meetings of the ECE/International Organization for Standardization (ISO)/International Electrotechnical Commission Memorandum of Understanding Coordinating Committee; the meetings of the ISO annual conference; liaison and consultations with the European Union, EBRD, the CIS Interstate Economic Committee, the International Chamber of Commerce and the chemical industry and steel industry associations;

(e) *Technical cooperation (RB/XB)*

(i) Advisory services at the request of Governments on trade facilitation; trade and investment promotion; and industry and enterprise development;

(ii) Group training. Two seminars on implementation strategies for electronic commerce and standards for countries with economies in transition; three workshops on trade finance and investment techniques, technical obstacles to trade and enterprise development; and study tours on chemicals and on the steel industry in China and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

18.82 The estimated requirements of $5,677,900, including resource growth of $2,658,000, would provide for the posts shown in table 18.19. The requirements under this subprogramme reflect the merger of former subprogrammes 4, Trade facilitation, and 7, Development of international trade. The total number of posts under this new subprogramme 6 reflects the sum of the posts under the two former subprogrammes 4 and 7.

Consultants and experts

18.83 A provision of $43,700, including resource growth of $22,000, is proposed to cover specialized consultancy services to assist in the preparation of analyses of international trade transactions, business processes and modelling; the follow-up to the Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development initiatives on intellectual property rights and public-private partnerships; the development of codes used in EDIFACT and LOCODE software for the EDIFACT repository and World Wide Web-based databases and a Web site directory for enterprise development in transition economies; and the updating of the CHEMLEX database. The increase of $22,000 includes $12,600 redeployed from former subprogramme 4 and $9,400 representing net additional requirements to carry out the programme of work.

Travel

18.84 Estimated requirements of $78,200, reflecting an increase of $31,800, are proposed for consultation and coordination with national and intergovernmental organizations in areas related to trade, chemical and steel;

meetings with FAO, WHO, the CEFACT Steering Group and others. The increase of $31,800 represents the redeployment of the resources previously approved under former subprogramme 4.

Contractual services

18.85 The estimated requirements of $29,000, including resource growth of $18,900, relate to the cost of external printing of publications under the programme of work as well as the production of material on CD-ROM. The increase of $18,900 includes $3,800 previously approved under former subprogramme 4 and $15,100 to meet additional requirements related to the production of material on CD-ROM.

Supplies and materials

18.86 The estimated requirements of $6,200 would provide for the acquisition of electronic supplies, diskettes and CD-ROM disks for EDIFACT LOCODE and other electronic outputs produced under the subprogramme.

Grants and contributions

18.87 A provision of $83,900, reflecting a decrease of $28,900, is proposed as the proportionate share of this subprogramme in respect of the total computer-processing, telecommunications, data-storage and other specialized information technology services provided to ECE. The decrease is due to a reduction in the use of these services, as well as projected expenditures based on the current pattern of these expenditures.

Subprogramme 7
Timber

Table 18.20 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1996-1997 expenditures*	*1998-1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000-2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	1 542.8	1 263.6	–	–	1 263.6	16.2	1 279.8
Consultants and experts	19.8	24.6	–	–	24.6	0.4	25.0
Travel	20.3	21.1	(2.5)	(11.8)	18.6	0.9	19.5
Contractual services	6.2	5.2	2.4	46.1	7.6	0.2	7.8
Grants and contributions	–	11.3	2.3	20.3	13.6	0.2	13.8
Total	**1 589.1**	**1 325.8**	**2.2**	**0.1**	**1 328.0**	**17.9**	**1 345.9**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1996–1997 expenditures	1998–1999 estimates	Source of funds	2000–2001 estimates
		(a) Services in support of:	
–	–	(i) United Nations organizations	–
–	–	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	–
		(b) Substantive activities	
12.3	22.6	Trust Fund for the ECE Study on Long-term Timber Trends and Prospects	56.5
		(c) Operational projects	
–	–	Technical cooperation trust funds	–
12.3	**22.6**	**Total**	**56.5**
1 601.4	**1 348.4**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**1 402.4**

Table 18.21 **Post requirements**

Subprogramme: Timber

	Established posts		Temporary posts					
	Regular budget		Regular budget		Extrabudgetary resources		Total	
	1998–1999	2000–2001	1998–1999	2000–2001	1998–1999	2000–2001	1998–1999	2000–2001
Professional category and above								
P-5	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
P-4/3	2	2	–	–	–	–	2	2
Total	**3**	**3**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**3**	**3**
General Service category								
Principal level	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
Other level	2	2	–	–	–	–	2	2
Total	**3**	**3**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**3**	**3**
Grand total	**6**	**6**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**6**	**6**

18.88 The programme of work will be implemented by the Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development Division in cooperation with FAO.

18.89 The main objective of the subprogramme is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable management of the forest and timber sector in the ECE region by the early years of the twenty-first century, maintaining an appropriate balance between the productive, social and environmental functions of the forest. In that context, the subprogramme will assist Governments, as requested, in the implementation of the commitments made at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the pan-European ministerial conferences on the protection of forests in Europe. The approach will be integrated and sector-wide, covering forestry, markets for forest products and trade in forest products. The subprogramme will be implemented in the context of an integrated ECE/FAO programme.

18.90 During the biennium 2000–2001, the activities of the subprogramme will focus on the following: (a) formulation and implementation of the pan-European programme of work on forests; (b) analysis of the long-term outlook for the forest and timber sector; (c) regular collection and dissemination of statistics and market information; (d) improving knowledge of the temperate and boreal forest resource, including

publication of data on indicators of sustainable forest management; (e) monitoring of forestry assistance for countries with economies in transition; (f) promotion of the sound use of wood as a renewable raw material; and (g) meetings on trade and environment issues in the forest sector. In addition, the ECE Timber Committee will continue to provide a forum for intergovernmental cooperation in its area of interest on a wide range of topics.

Expected accomplishments

18.91 Expected accomplishments will include: (a) further improvement of a comprehensive set of information and analysis, based on statistics, related to all major aspects of the forest and forest products sector, including the analysis of controversial policy topics (this will be a recognized major contribution to the ministerial programme of action for European forests); (b) capacity-building in the forest/timber sector of countries with economies in transition; and (c) improved coordination of activities, especially as regards statistics and information, among international organizations active in the sector.

Outputs

18.92 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) ECE Timber Committee

a. Substantive servicing. Six annual meetings of the Committee;

b. Parliamentary documentation. Annual reports on contribution to sustainable forest management; forestry assistance to countries with economies in transition; follow-up to the temperate and boreal forest resource assessment 2000; review of forest products markets; and the plan for a forthcoming study of European timber trends and prospects; and one report on policy issues related to promoting the sound use of wood;

(ii) Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training

a. Substantive servicing. Five meetings of the Joint Committee;

b. Parliamentary documentation. One report each on activities in the field of forest management, including multiple use forestry, ecological and economic issues and marketing and information systems; activities in the field of forest technology, including forest engineering, ecologically and economically sound operations in silviculture, wood harvesting and transport; and activities in the field of training, including applied ergonomics, occupational safety and health and social aspects of forestry;

(iii) Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics

a. Substantive servicing. Meetings of the Joint Working Party (5);

b. Parliamentary documentation. Reviews of international statistical systems in the forest sector, including inter-agency cooperation; methods for future forest resource assessments; and methods for outlook studies;

(iv) FAO European Forestry Commission

a. Substantive servicing. Meetings of the Commission (joint session with the ECE Timber Committee) (4);

b. Parliamentary documentation. Review of the state of forests in Europe and report on sustainable forest management;

(b) *Other substantive activities*

(i) Recurrent publications. *Timber Bulletin* (12 issues); *International Forest Fire News* (4 issues); Geneva timber and forest study papers as follows: country profiles of the forest sector of countries with economies in transition (3), reports to the Vienna ministerial conference on indicators of sustainable forest management, forestry assistance to countries with economies in transition, studies on trade and environmental issues and promotion of the sound use of wood; *Timber Committee Yearbook* (2 issues); and Geneva timber and forest discussion papers (8);

(ii) Seminars on forest management, forest technology and training of forest workers, including on occupational safety and health;

(iii) Press releases on completed outputs (4);

(iv) Database on the forest and forest products sector (development and updating of existing material);

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison (RB/XB).* Participation in coordinating and substantive meetings of the pan-European process on protection of forests in Europe, including the Vienna ministerial conference; meetings of the General Coordinating Committee; continuing liaison with the FAO Forest Department to manage the integrated programme of the ECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission; cooperation with ILO and UNEP; and participation in meetings of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Forest Statistics;

(d) *Technical cooperation (XB).* Workshops on forest sector issues for countries with economies in transition (2).

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

18.93 The estimated requirements of $1,263,600, at maintenance level, would provide for the posts shown in table 18.21.

Consultants and experts

18.94 A provision of $24,600, at maintenance level, is proposed to cover specialized consultancy services to assist in the preparation of background papers for seminars on trade and environmental issues related to the forest sector and on promotion of sound use of wood; to design and implement an improved timber/forest database/Web site; to report on indicators of sustainable forest management for the Vienna ministerial conference; and to prepare an analysis of the long-term outlook for the next timber trends study.

Travel

18.95 A provision of $18,600, reflecting a decrease of $2,500, would cover the cost of attendance at meetings and consultations with international organizations such as strategy coordination with FAO, coordination of statistical activities with other regional organizations and preparation of workshops in countries with economies in transition.

Contractual services

18.96 The estimated requirements of $7,600, including resource growth of $2,400, are proposed for the cost of printing the proceedings of the seminars; conducting a study on the sound use of wood; and issuing a CD-ROM with a forest/timber database.

Grants and contributions

18.97 A provision of $13,600, including resource growth of $2,300, would provide for the subprogramme's share of the payments in respect of the total computer-processing, telecommunications, data-storage and other specialized information technology services provided to ECE.

Subprogramme 8
Human settlements

Table 18.22 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1996-1997 expenditures*	*1998-1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000-2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	653.3	612.9	(79.1)	(12.9)	533.8	9.0	542.8
Consultants and experts	7.0	8.0	–	–	8.0	0.2	8.2
Travel	15.8	16.2	(2.4)	(14.8)	13.8	0.7	14.5
Grants and contributions	–	5.2	1.5	28.8	6.7	0.2	6.9
Total	**676.1**	**642.3**	**(80.0)**	**(12.4)**	**562.3**	**10.1**	**572.4**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1996-1997 expenditures	*1998-1999 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*2000-2001 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
–	–	(i) United Nations organizations	–
–	–	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	–
		(b) Substantive activities	
87.3	165.0	Trust Fund for Human Settlements	168.4
87.3	**165.0**	**Total**	**168.4**
763.4	**807.3**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**740.8**

Table 18.23 **Post requirements**

Subprogramme: Human settlements

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1998-1999	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*
Professional category and above								
P-4/3	2	1	–	–	–	–	2	1
P-2/1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Total	**2**	**2**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**2**	**2**
General Service category								
Other level	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
Total	**1**	**1**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**1**	**1**
Grand total	**3**	**3**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**3**	**3**

18.98 The work under the subprogramme will be carried out by the Environment and Human Settlements Division.

18.99 The subprogramme aims at: (a) reforming the housing sector with a particular focus on developing partnerships between all levels of Government and the private sector; and (b) promoting modern cadastre and land registration systems as a basis for economically, socially and environmentally sound urban development.

18.100 These objectives will be achieved through: (a) provision of substantive and technical services to the ECE Committee on Human Settlements and its Meeting of Officials on Land Administration; (b) preparation of analytical studies on housing policies, urban environmental performance and dissemination of best practices; (c) development and publishing of housing and building statistics for the ECE region; and (d) organization of seminars and workshops and provision of expert assistance to individual ECE countries. The Committee on Human Settlements will contribute to implementation of the Habitat Agenda and Agenda 21 in the ECE region. In addition, input will be provided to the Commission on Sustainable Development and to the special session of the General Assembly on Human Settlements.

Expected accomplishments

18.101 Expected accomplishments will include: (a) increased responsibility and improved management by local authorities and greater involvement by the private sector and the public; and (b) improved registration of real property rights and increased dynamics of the land market in a number of ECE countries.

Outputs

18.102 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) *Servicing of intergovernmental/expert bodies*

(i) Committee on Human Settlements

a. Substantive servicing. Meetings of the Committee (10) and of the Meeting of Officials on Land Administration (8);

b. Parliamentary documentation. Reports of the Committee's annual sessions; background and discussion papers for the Committee on reports of the Meeting of Officials on Land Administration and discussion papers for the Meeting of Officials on Land Administration;

(b) *Other substantive activities (RB/XB)*

(i) Recurrent publications. *Annual Bulletin of Housing and Building Statistics for Europe and North America*;

(ii) Non-recurrent publications. Country profiles of the housing sector (2) and land administration study;

(c) *International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison*

(i) Close cooperation and coordination with other international governmental and non-governmental institutions and organizations, such as OECD, the Council of Europe, the European Union, the World Bank, the United States Agency for International Development and others, in the framework of the activities of the Meeting of Officials on Land Administration and in activities for reforming the institutional set-up, legislation and economic instruments of the housing sector; cooperation with non-governmental organizations, private sector and local authorities through, *inter alia*, the Housing and Urban Management Advisory Network, set up to advise and assist the Committee in implementing its programme of work as well as to disseminate results;

(ii) Participation in activities of funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) in Nairobi, the regional commissions and UNDP;

(d) *Technical cooperation (XB).* Approximately six workshops on housing, spatial planning and/or land administration will be organized as requested by the Committee and member States.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

18.103 The estimated requirements of $533,800, reflecting a decrease of $79,100, would provide for the posts shown in table 18.23. It is proposed to redeploy outwards one P-4 post to subprogramme 1, Environment, in exchange for the inward redeployment from that subprogramme of one P-2 post to respond to the requirements arising from ECE reform. Part of the work previously done by the P-4 post will continue to be carried out by that post under subprogramme 1, Environment, as the two areas are increasingly integrated. The decrease of $79,100 represents the cost difference resulting from these redeployments.

Consultants and experts

18.104 A provision of $8,000, at maintenance level, would be required to cover specialized consultancy services for preparation of the housing country profile projects in countries with economies in transition and the study on land administration.

Travel

18.105 The estimated requirements of $13,800, reflecting a decrease of $2,400, relate to consultations and attendance at meetings, consultations and workshops organized by international organizations such as OECD and the Council of Europe and preparation of workshops for countries with economies in transition.

Grants and contributions

18.106 A provision of $6,700, including an increase of $1,500, is proposed as the proportionate share of this subprogramme in respect of the total computer-processing, telecommunications, data-storage and other specialized information technology services provided to ECE.

D. Programme support

Table 18.24 **Summary of requirements by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Object of expenditure	*1996-1997 expenditures*	*1998-1999 appropriations*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2000-2001 estimates*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Posts	3 337.9	2 773.7	533.5	19.2	3 307.2	40.6	3 347.8
Other staff costs	146.7	184.5	–	–	184.5	3.4	187.9
Travel	12.9	20.2	23.9	118.3	44.1	2.2	46.3
Contractual services	–	158.9	(15.7)	(9.8)	143.2	2.6	145.8
General operating expenses	93.8	158.5	(27.5)	(17.3)	131.0	2.3	133.3
Supplies and materials	56.1	84.1	–	–	84.1	1.6	85.7
Furniture and equipment	465.0	485.4	–	–	485.4	8.7	494.1
Total	**4 112.4**	**3 865.3**	**514.2**	**13.3**	**4 379.5**	**61.4**	**4 440.9**

(2) *Extrabudgetary resources*

1996-1997 expenditures	*1998-1999 estimates*	*Source of funds*	*2000-2001 estimates*
		(a) Services in support of:	
–	–	(i) United Nations organizations	–
114.6	484.8	(ii) Extrabudgetary activities	493.6
		(b) Substantive activities	
647.1	849.1	Trust Fund for Assistance to Countries in Transition	700.6
		(c) Operational projects	
–	–	Trust Fund for Support to ECE Regional Conferences and Meetings, including Preparatory Meetings for Global Conferences	–
761.7	**1 333.9**	**Total**	**1 194.2**
4 874.1	**5 199.2**	**Total (1) and (2)**	**5 635.1**

Table 18.25 **Post requirements**

Programme support

	Established posts		*Temporary posts*					
	Regular budget		*Regular budget*		*Extrabudgetary resources*		*Total*	
	1998-1999	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*	*1998-1999*	*2000-2001*
Professional category and above								
D-1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	1
P-5	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	1
P-4/3	4	4	–	–	–	–	4	4
P-2/1	3	2	–	–	–	–	3	2
Total	**7**	**8**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**–**	**7**	**8**
General Service category								
Principal level	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	1
Other level	7	8	–	–	2	2	9	10
Total	**8**	**9**	**–**	**–**	**2**	**2**	**10**	**11**
Grand total	**15**	**17**	**–**	**–**	**2**	**2**	**17**	**19**

18.107 The Office of the Executive Secretary will continue to provide programme support services for all substantive activities of the Commission. Those services relate to programme planning, budget and finance, human resources management, general and technical services and conference services. In addition, the Office oversees the work of the Coordinating Unit for Operational Activities.

Outputs

18.108 During the biennium 2000–2001, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) *Programme planning, budget and finance*

(i) Preparation of the biennial programme budgets and performance reports in liaison with the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts;

(ii) Financial control and certification of all accounts under the responsibility of ECE, in cooperation with the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts and the Financial Resources Management Service at the United Nations Office at Geneva;

(iii) Administration of technical cooperation activities and extrabudgetary resources within ECE, including regional advisory services under budget section 21, Regular programme of technical cooperation;

(b) *Human resources management*

(i) Administration of ECE staff, including recruitment, placement and career development, in coordination with the Personnel Service of the United Nations Office at Geneva and the Office of Human Resources Management at Headquarters;

(ii) Identification of staff training needs, including the provision of training to upgrade professional skills, in-house training in computer applications and arrangements for appropriate courses in cooperation with the Training and Examination Section of the United Nations Office at Geneva;

(iii) Staff-management relations in the context of the ECE Sectoral Assembly and elected staff representatives;

(c) *General and technical services*

(i) Determination of ECE policy related to information technology strategies and acquisition plans; planning and coordination of informatics and telematic resources;

(ii) Continued development and enhancement of an integrated professional support system through the management of a personal computer-based local area network (LAN) and provision of services to the network user community;

(iii) Provision of information technology services to support ECE substantive programmes and to facilitate information sharing with member States, other international organizations, the business community and civil society;

(iv) Acquisition of information technology and other equipment, furniture, materials and supplies; processing and monitoring of ECE communications, correspondence and staff travel; management of office space and archives; and records management;

(d) *Conference services*

(i) Establishment and management of the ECE programme of meetings, related documentation, facilities and services required in close coordination with Conference Services at Geneva; arrangements for ECE meetings hosted outside Geneva by member Governments; and informal meetings held outside Geneva within the context of the ECE programme of workshops for countries with economies in transition;

(ii) Preparation and organization of the annual session of ECE, its quarterly ad hoc informal meetings and required documentation and meetings services;

(iii) Preparation and administration of the programme of publications;

(e) *Coordinating Unit for Operational Activities*

(i) Facilitate cooperation in the ECE region in the fields not covered by the ECE divisions;

(ii) Respond to any special requests and initiatives from groups of member countries that fall within the ECE mandate but that are not dealt with by ECE divisions;

(iii) Support and, as necessary, coordinate all other operational activities undertaken by ECE divisions, including by the regional advisers;

(iv) Provide an overview of ECE operational activities to the Commission;

(v) Promote the use of ECE instruments and act as focal point for ECE involvement in national and regional programmes carried out by the United Nations funds and programmes, including through the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and country strategy notes.

Resource requirements (at current rates)

Posts

18.109 The proposed staffing requirements of $3,307,200, including resource growth of $533,500, would provide for the posts shown in table 18.25. The staffing requirements include: (a) the proposed inward redeployment of one D-1, one P-3 and one General Service posts from executive direction and management related to the Coordinating Unit for Operational Activities; (b) the outward redeployment of one P-2 post to executive direction and management; and (c) the upward reclassification of one P-4 post to the P- 5 level for the Chief of the Administration and Common Services Unit. In its report on the programme and administrative practices of the secretariat of ECE dated 7 October 1994, the Office of Internal Oversight Services recommended that the ECE administrative unit be transformed into a fully fledged executive office headed at a level commensurate with its responsibilities. The recommendation was not implemented previously owing to the freezing of the post of Chief of the Administrative and Conference Services Unit until April 1997. The post was filled in November 1997. It is now proposed to reclassify the post to the P-5 level in order to reflect the responsibilities attached to the post.

Other staff costs

18.110 An estimated provision of $184,500, at maintenance level, for ECE as a whole would be required for general temporary assistance to replace staff on extended sick leave and maternity leave, for temporary assistance during peak workload periods ($141,000) and for overtime during periods of heavy workload, in particular during the annual session of the Commission and during the preparations for the annual sessions of its principal subsidiary bodies ($43,500).

Travel

18.111 The proposed requirements of $44,100, reflecting an increase of $23,900, includes $20,200 for the Administrative and Conference Services Unit for periodic consultations with Headquarters and participation in meetings on administration, personnel and budget and financial matters and $23,900 for the Coordinating Unit staff to oversee operational activities related in particular to countries with economies in transition. The experience during 1998 demonstrates a need for increased resources for the Coordinating Unit to consult with national authorities in the countries with economies in transition on the preparation of operational projects and participation in seminars given in those countries, as well as consultations with member countries of the European Union and other international bodies.

Contractual services

18.112 The estimated requirements of $143,200, reflecting a reduction of $15,700, relate to the maintenance and upgrading of software licences and LAN support and include provision for the maintenance of LAN-based software and the upgrading of user application software packages. The reduction of $15,700 results mainly from reduced costs in global contractual services for software upgrades negotiated by the United Nations Office at Geneva.

General operating expenses

18.113 The estimated requirements of $131,000, reflecting a decrease of $27,500, relate to rental of equipment ($16,200) and rental and maintenance of data-processing and automated equipment ($105,100) such as photocopy and fax machines; and miscellaneous services ($9,700), including freight, mailing and transportation charges. The reduction of $27,500 results from reduced requirements under maintenance of automated equipment ($13,000) and miscellaneous services ($14,500).

Supplies and materials

18.114 The estimated requirements of $84,100, at maintenance level, relate to stationery and other expendable office supplies, data-processing supplies and materials and library books and supplies.

Furniture and equipment

18.115 A provision of $485,400, at maintenance level, is proposed for the acquisition and replacement of electronic data-processing and office-automation equipment.

Table 18.26 **Summary of follow-up action taken to implement relevant recommendations of the internal and external oversight bodies and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions**

Brief description of the recommendation	*Action taken to implement the recommendation*
Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/52/7 (Chap. II, Part V))	
The Committee recommends that the format of presentation of programmes of activities of the regional commissions should be reviewed with a view to delineating more clearly substantive activities vis-à-vis programme support and harmonizing the budget presentation (para. V.4).	An effort has been made in this proposed programme budget to harmonize the format of presentation of the programme of activities of the regional commissions. The new presentation concerns a standardized presentation of the parts on executive direction and management and programme support. In each section of the regional commissions, the part on executive direction and management now includes the activities and resources related to the Office of the Executive Secretary, the Secretary of the Commission and the unit/structure dealing with information services. Similarly, the part on programme support includes the activities and resources related to (a) administrative and common services (including programme planning, budget and finance; human resources management; and general services); (b) conference and library services; and (c) management of technical cooperation. The format of presentation of the parts on policy-making organs and programme of work has been always harmonized and therefore has not been modified.

Brief description of the recommendation	*Action taken to implement the recommendation*
The budget submissions for the regional commissions should indicate more clearly the extent of review by intergovernmental organs of the programmes of work of the commissions and their various organizational and institutional issues, including intergovernmental structures. ... The budget submissions should identify the financial implications resulting from intergovernmental reviews, as well as proposed reallocation within the same budget section of released resources to other priority issues. Furthermore, all increases in requirements resulting from intergovernmental reviews should also be indicated in the budget submissions (para. V.6).	The work under the subprogrammes are reviewed annually by the relevant principal subsidiary bodies of the Commission. Further, the recently established Group of Experts on the Programme of Work, in November 1998, reviewed the prioritized work programmes of all principal subsidiary bodies and recommended that the distribution of human resources among subprogrammes should not change at this time but should be maintained as in the biennium 1998–1999.
The Committee recommends that future budget submissions identify publications initiated by the secretariats, including studies to be undertaken by consultants ... [and] indicate more clearly intended users of United Nations publications, both recurrent and non-recurrent. The Committee also reiterates its view reflected in paragraph 76 of its first report on the proposed budget for the biennium 1996–1997 [A/50/7 and Corr.1] that the Secretariat should indicate to the relevant intergovernmental bodies the number, type, cost and audience of each publication, the date intended for publication, the date when each publication was first requested, who requested such publication, when it was last reviewed and by whom (para. V.7).	Relevant intergovernmental bodies were provided with information on the ECE 1998–1999 publications programme. The secretariat, in a document on the implementation of ECE reform (E/ECE/1361/Add.1), presented the proposed publications programme for each of the Commission's areas of activity. The information included the following: target audience, publication date, date requested and by whom, date reviewed and by whom and estimated cost.

Brief description of the recommendation	*Action taken to implement the recommendation*
The Committee draws attention to its comments and observations in paragraph 83 of chapter I and points out also that requirements for consultants in future budget submissions should be prepared in accordance with such guidelines which the General Assembly may wish to establish as a result of its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the comprehensive policy guidelines on consultants to be submitted in accordance with section VI, paragraph 4, of Assembly resolution 51/226 of 3 April 1997 (para. V.8).	ECE attempts to select consultants on a competitive basis, with due regard to geographical balance, with the aim of ensuring transparency and objectivity in the selection process.
The Advisory Committee recommends that the description of international cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison be significantly improved so that Member States are provided with a clear picture of how these activities relate and contribute to other quantifiable and/or identifiable mandated activities (para. V.10).	All programme managers have been requested to be more specific in the description of their activities relating to international cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison. This information has been reflected in the proposed 2000–2001 programme budget to show more clearly the contribution of these activities to the outputs described under each subprogramme.
The Advisory Committee notes that proposed estimates for travel in the budget submissions for ESCAP, ECE and ECLAC show various rates of growth. ... The Committee recalls, in this connection, its earlier observation that with the advent of technological innovations and the on-line availability of information, expenditures in this area could, in some cases, be considerably lowered. The Committee reiterates its position on this matter and requests that additional measures be taken to reduce travel costs in ESCAP, ECE and ECLAC in future budgets (para. V.11).	During the current budget exercise efforts have been made to carefully review the requirements for travel at the 1998–1999 level. A decrease was not considered feasible for the following reasons: (a) although technological innovations, such as teleconferencing and video conferencing, have enabled ECE to avoid some travel, this is possible only in some cases. The work of ECE requires contact with its clients in eastern Europe and central Asian States where technologically advanced equipment may not be readily available. Travel to this region, which is very expensive, is thus unavoidable; (b) furthermore, the difficult economic climate of several countries in the CIS region in many instances prevents persons from those countries from travelling to Geneva for consultations, thus making it necessary for ECE staff to travel there.

Brief description of the recommendation	*Action taken to implement the recommendation*
The Advisory Committee recommends that the responsibilities and functions of the Unit [the newly established Coordinating Unit for Operational Activities], as outlined in the proposed programme budget, should be defined more clearly and steps should be taken to ensure that the activities of the Unit do not duplicate those of other organizational units of ECE (para. V.54).	Special attention was given to the activities of the Coordinating Unit in the 2000–2001 programme budget submission. The provision of prompt assistance to and response to the urgent needs of the countries with economies in transition is within the Unit's terms of reference, and it does not duplicate the regular activities of other ECE divisions, which are planned with anticipation. The terms of reference of the Coordinating Unit also include coordination of operational activities, identification of technical assistance needs of groups of countries with economies in transition, preparation of overview reports on these topics and preparation of ECE contributions to regional and national activities of United Nations funds and programmes. The Unit is the sole organizational unit within the secretariat undertaking the activities.
The Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that the number of recurrent publications of ECE will be reduced for the biennium 1998–1999 from the current level of 101 to 80. In this connection, the Committee requests that ECE reduce the need for external production of its publications by using to the maximum extent possible internal reproduction facilities (para. V.57).	ECE has made efforts to reduce external production costs of its publications with a view to limiting expenditures, mostly under costs for film/flashage. Publication covers, previously handled externally, are frequently produced in house.

Economic development in Europe
Proposed organizational structure and post distribution for the biennium 2000-2001